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362, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY.

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"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE.
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.)
REPORTED RENEWAL OF HOSTILITIES IN SAMOA.

SYDNEY, October 25.—According to intelligence received from Apia, dated the 15th inst., it was reported that fighting had occurred on the island of Savaii, the largest and most westerly of the Samoa group, between the followers of Malietoa and Taimaese, the forces on each side numbering 300 men. Each party sustained some losses in killed and wounded, but it was not known who proved the victors.

SECRET VISIT OF PRINCE FERDINAND TO ENGLAND.

VIENNA, October 25.—It appears certain that Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria on leaving Paris proceeded to England and paid a visit of some hours' duration to the Comte de Paris, returning to the continent the same day. At Coburg Prince Ferdinand met the Duchess of Edinburgh. According to the *Politische Correspondenz* his Highness will certainly not be back in Sofia by Sunday next. The opening of the Bulgarian Parliament, which has been postponed for a few days, or, if Sunday be adhered to as the date of its re-assembling, the task of opening the session will be discharged by M. Stambouloff.

DEATH OF M. EMILE AUGIER.

PARIS, October 25.—The death is announced of M. Emile Augier, the celebrated dramatic poet. The deceased was a member of the Academy.

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

PARIS, October 25.—The *Figaro* this morning publishes an article of a sensational character, from the pen of M. de Grandlieu, purporting to describe a recent conversation between Prince Lichtenstein and the Emperor of Austria. During this conversation his Majesty is said to have declared that after the defeat of Boulanger, which was the unknown factor, Austria had no longer any reason for opposing France. "Prince Lichtenstein," says the article, "then recalled the fact of the Italian alliance, to which the Emperor replied: 'Oh, merely a temporary alliance. The future has perhaps many surprises in store for us.'"

AUSTRIA, RUSSIA, AND GERMANY.

VIENNA, October 25.—The *Freidenblatt*, the organ of the Austrian Foreign Office, in an article on the recent visit of the Czar to the Emperor William, expresses the opinion that Prince Bismarck's efforts during the Russian monarch's stay in Berlin resulted in making clear to his Majesty the true objects of the peace league, and in removing the mistrust nourished by various insinuations, as well as the tension between the two rulers and empires which had been artificially brought about. "The Czar having thus obtained a clearer insight into the aims of Germany and her allies, the hope," proceeds the journal, "is justified that a change will also come over the views held in Russian political circles. Then only would Europe be able to become a lasting calm as the result of the interview. All those," says the *Freidenblatt* in conclusion, "who have a loyal desire for peace have recognised the importance of the Czar's visit as a tranquillising influence and the Emperor William's speech at the opening of the Reichstag could, therefore, with perfect right, dwell upon the increased confidence felt in Germany's foreign policy, and foresee in this fact a further period of assured peace for Europe."

BURNING OF A STEAMER AND LOSS OF LIFE.

NEW YORK, October 24.—According to a despatch from Kingston, Ontario, published in the *New York Herald*, the steamer *Quinto* has been burned near Deseronto. Five lives were lost.

THE ROYAL WEDDING AT ATHENS.

An Athens telegram states that the King and Crown Prince on Friday met the Empress Frederick and the bride at Corinth, and crossed to Kalamaki by train. There they embarked on the Greek man-of-war *Admiral Miaulis*, and, escorted by a division of the Greek fleet, started at about eleven o'clock for the Piræus, which was reached at three o'clock in the afternoon. Queen Olga, the future Crown-Princess and her mother, whose arrival was announced by salutes of artillery. The people, usually quiet and unobtrusive, raised deafening cries of welcome. On reaching Athens the Royal party was met by the military and civil authorities, the mayor welcoming the bride in the Greek language. The Royal progress from the station to the palace was a triumphal procession. The streets had been crowded from the early morning, and the enthusiasm which prevailed was unbounded. The crowd remained cheering before the palace until the bride, surrounded by her Royal relatives, appeared on the balcony, when the excitement of the people was indescribable. The empress and the bride looked remarkably well, and appeared deeply touched by their hearty reception.

NEWS OF STANLEY.

An official despatch received in Berlin from Captain Wissmann on Wednesday, says Emin Pacha and Mr. Stanley, accompanied by Captain Casati, were expected at Mpwapwa toward the end of November. Captain Wissmann also reports he has defeated the insurgents who recently invaded the province of Uyaramo, and killed seventy.

Dr. Folkin, of Edinburgh, a great friend of Emin Pacha, refuses to believe that Emin Pacha is accompanying Stanley. He thinks that Captain Casati and the six Englishmen referred to may be with Stanley, three or four weeks from Mpwapwa. This agrees with what the sister of the late General Gordon said a little time ago, that "she did not believe Emin Pacha could be persuaded to leave the scene of his years of useful work."

FATAL ACCIDENT ON A CUNARD STEAMER.

The Cunard steamer *Cephalonia*, outward bound from Liverpool to New York, put into Holyhead on Thursday night, because on the way down the Irish Channel one of the steam-pipes in the engine-room burst, and the second engineer and four men were badly scalded. The injured men were taken to the Stanley Hospital on Friday, and three of the number died.

The Lord Mayor-elect (Alderman Sir Henry James) will preside at the Crystal Palace on the 2nd prox., when the Lady Mayoress will present the prizes of the London Rifle Brigade.

THE BRIGHTON ELECTION.

Result of the Poll.
Great Conservative Victory.

Polling for the vacancy caused by the death of Sir W. Tindal Robertson took place at Brighton on Friday, the candidates being Mr. G. W. E. Loder (C.) and Sir Robert Peel (G.). There were not many votes recorded during the first hour, but both parties afterwards worked hard bringing up voters. A considerable number of London business men, who have residences in Brighton, recorded their votes before catching their trains, and this also made the polling in the sea front wards tolerably brisk between nine and half-past. Many private carriages were lent for the purpose of bringing up voters, and the town was the scene of unusual excitement. Among those who had sent carriages for the use of Mr. Loder's committee were the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquis of Abercorn, Sir Albert Sassoon, and Colonel North. The utmost efforts were exerted by both parties to bring up lagging voters until the closing hour struck. The result was declared shortly after half-past ten o'clock as follows:

MR. G. W. E. LODER (C.) 7,132
SIR R. PELL (G.) 4,925

Majority 2,207

The mayor made the usual official announcement from the balcony in the town hall and the result was received with vociferous cheers and shouting. Mr. Loder proposed a vote of thanks to the mayor. This was seconded by Dr. Ewart, chairman of Sir Robert Peel's committee, Sir Robert himself not being present. Immediately afterwards the Conservative member made his appearance in the large space in Castle-square, where, from the balcony of the Pavilion Hotel, he addressed a vast crowd, which completely filled the place. In a few words he expressed his thanks to the electors for enabling him to vindicate the charge brought against the Government that the voice of the country was against them. He thanked most heartily all who had worked so well and so assiduously in supporting him. In doing what they had done the electors of Brighton had vindicated the Government from the charge that they were losing the confidence of the country. Brighton remained solid in its support of the Union, and of the just and statesmanlike policy of the Government in Ireland. It had shown that, whilst desirous of preserving Ireland for the Irish, she was determined to withstand any attempt at the disruption of the empire. (Loud cheers.) Now that he was elected he was anxious that bygone should be bygones, and should consider himself the representative of all classes of the electors, whether Radical or Unionist. His interests would be their interests, and the prosperity of the borough his constant care. (Cheers.) Subsequently Mr. Loder went to the Preston Constitutional Club, in London-road, and there also returned thanks. The enthusiasm in the town over the victory was immense, and the announcement of the result came as a surprise to even the most ardent Conservatives. The poll was known to have been large, but it was not thought to have reached 7,000 for the Unionist candidate. The verdict of the constituency shows that the Gladstonian party has no chance in any way in breaking through the majority possessed by the Unionist member chosen at the general election. The following are the figures for the two previous elections:—

1885. MR. W. T. MARRIOTT (C.) 7,017 MR. D. SMITH (G.) 5,363
MR. D. SMITH (G.) 7,017 MR. W. T. MARRIOTT (C.) 5,363
MR. J. B. PROBYN (L.) 4,889 MR. W. HALL (G.) 2,633
MR. J. B. HOLLAND (L.) 4,889

In July, 1886, Mr. Marriott (now Sir W. T. Marriott) accepted office, and was returned unopposed. In November, 1886, Mr. D. Smith (C.) died, and the late Sir W. Tindal Robertson (C.) was elected unopposed.

Mr. Gerald Walker Erskine Loder, who thus succeeds to the seat rendered vacant by the death of Sir W. Tindal Robertson, which seat he has only held since the by-election in 1886, is a son of the late Sir Robert Loder, first baronet, of Whitleybury Lodge, Northants (who died last year) by his marriage with Maria Georgiana, daughter of the late Mr. Hans Bux, and granddaughter of the late Sir Wadsworth Bux. He was born on October 25, 1861, so that Friday was his 28th birthday, and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1884, subsequently taking also the LL.B. degree, and proceeding M.A. in 1888. The same year he was called to the bar at the Inner Temple, and appointed private secretary to Mr. Ritchie, President of the Local Government Board. He is the 88th new member returned to the House of Commons since the general election of 1886, but his return on the present occasion makes no difference in the balance of political parties.

AN EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR.

Mary Harcourt, a well-dressed, middle-aged woman, said to be an authoress, residing at Finsbury Park-road, was charged before Mr. Horace Smith, at the Dalston Police Court, on Friday, with being concerned with another in concealing the birth of two children. Mr. C. V. Young defended. Detective-sergeant Brockwell said that he, with Sergeant Hearn, went to the premises at twenty minutes past eleven, and found the two children were that the young woman upstairs had been confined of? She replied that they were still-born, and had been sent away to the undertaker's, but she declined to say where. A young person named Laura Florence (address unknown) had taken the bodies. The prisoner admitted to witness that she was not a certificated midwife, and he at once sent for a doctor for the patient upstairs. She said, further, that she had known the young woman for a long while, and the result of an accident was that she had been prenatally confined, but witness had reason to believe that the children were full-born. She was taken into custody, and on the way to the station she said the bodies had been sent to Mr. Tifford, undertaker, Kingsland-road, but that gentleman told the police he knew nothing of it. Prisoner mentioned several gentlemen in the case, and offered to give the officer and a doctor if they could "make a miscarriage of it." At the police station she made no reply to the charge. The police asked for a remand, as up to the present they had been unable to find the bodies of the children. Mr. Young asked that his client might be admitted to bail, but this was refused.

A Maine dentist tells of a man who came into his office and insisted on having a sound tooth extracted—not because he had neuralgia in his face, but because a faith healer had told him that it would improve his general health to have a tooth pulled.

TRAGIC AFFAIR NEAR MANCHESTER.

Daring Bank Robbery.
The Manager Shot—Suicide of the Thief.

At Didsbury, near Manchester, on Thursday, a man entered the local branch of the Union Bank, and asked to see the manager on the pretext that he wished to deposit fifty or one hundred pounds. Mr. Allen, the bank manager, told him that the clerk in attendance would receive it. Thereupon, the man drew a revolver and fired at Mr. Allen. The shot struck in the breast over the heart, but glanced off a rib. The clerk, on coming from behind a screen, was threatened by the man, and turning he ran towards a side door, a shot being fired at him, which fortunately missed. The assailant then seems to have climbed over the counter and helped himself to the gold in the till, which he crammed into his trousers pockets. He then turned and fled, but some tradesmen on the opposite side of the road having been attracted by the shot, raised an alarm and pursued the robber. They followed him closely, and he sought refuge behind a manure heap. He was seen by a gardener, who approached him, whereupon he drew the revolver and pulled the trigger. But again the bullet missed its mark, and the man once more ran off; but he was gradually surrounded, and, seeing this, he put the revolver in his mouth and shot himself through the head. The body was removed to the stables of an adjacent hotel, whither, in the meanwhile, the wounded bank manager had been conveyed. Mr. Allen was on Thursday night reported to be in a very dangerous condition, but the three doctors who were in attendance upon him spoke hopefully, and state that he had recovered remarkably from the shock. They had traced the bullet, but hesitated to make an attempt to extract it. They found that it had entered the breast bone on the left side, had passed off the lower bone of the ribs, traversed three or five inches beneath the skin, and had become embedded just below the shoulder-blade. In its course it had injured the lung. His assailant, in whose pockets the stolen gold was found, was well dressed, but quite unknown in Didsbury. There were Army numbers on his shirt and trousers, which suggest some Line regiment, and he was tattooed all over the arms, the tattoo marks including the name "Dwyer" and the words "God save the Queen."

The Inquest.

An inquest was held at Didsbury on Friday on the body of the man, James Dwyer.—The deceased was identified by his brother, a private in the East Yorkshire Regiment, stationed at Sheffield. This witness said the deceased had served in the same regiment as himself for seven years, but quitted it last March, and had since been receiving 5d. per day as an Army Reserve man. While in India the deceased suffered from enteric fever. Harold Cuppleditch, a clerk at the Didsbury branch of the Union Bank of Manchester, described the circumstances of the robbery and the shooting of the manager. He added that the deceased also fired at him, but missed him.—George Hambridge, a coachman, deposed that the deceased, while endeavouring to elude the crowd which pursued him, threatened with a revolver.—The coroner said he had received a letter from Mr. Flood, landlord of the Crosby Hotel, Manchester, stating that the deceased had recently been in his employ, but was discharged in consequence of his eccentric behaviour.—William Gifford, a billiard-marker of the Crosby Hotel, gave evidence bearing out this statement.—The jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*.

STEALING FROM A BARRISTER'S CHAMBERS.

At the Old Bailey on Friday, Henry Edward Jones and Bartholomew Marsam were indicted for breaking into the chambers of Mr. H. H. Lawless, and stealing jewellery to the value of £53 10s. Mr. George Hearn, prosecutor, and Mr. Todd defended Marsam.—The prosecutor's chambers in the Temple were entered during his absence upon professional business. He gave information to the police, and later the same night the two prisoners were taken to the station by a cabman whose fare they had declined to pay. It appeared that the accused had engaged the Victoria Station with the object of going to Brighton. On the way, however, they got intoxicated and found themselves locked up. After leaving the police station the cabman found on the seat of his cab a deposit note relating to the pledge of a valuable diamond ring, stolen, as it turned out, from the prosecutor's chambers. Jones was the husband of the charwoman who cleaned out the chambers. Since the commission of the accused a portion of the property had mysteriously been returned to the prosecutor.—The jury found the prisoners guilty, and, on the application of Mr. George Hearn, sentenced was postponed, to enable the accused to give information as to missing articles especially valuable to the prosecutor on account of their associations.

EXTRAORDINARY RESTORATION OF MONEY.

William Sayer, aged 25, a prisoner, pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey, on Friday, to forging and uttering a cheque for £220. Mr. Gill represented the prisoner.—The case was a very remarkable one. The prisoner had been employed at the house of a gentleman named Mott, living in Bloomsbury. By some means he obtained access to Mr. Mott's cheque-book. He stole one of the cheques, and filling it up for the amount mentioned, succeeded in getting it cashed. A few days later the prisoner repented, and voluntarily returning the whole of the money, gave himself into custody. A brother of the prisoner and a gentleman named Mott, who was in Australia, gave the accused an excellent character, and the judge sentenced him to five days' imprisonment from the commencement of the sessions.—He was at once discharged.

A TRIP TO AUSTRALIA.

In the Divorce Court on Friday, the case of *Brown v. Brown* was heard. It was the petition of Mrs. Maria Eliza Brown for a divorce by reason of the desertion, bigamy, and adultery of her husband, Mr. Alexander Brown, a tea broker. Mr. Pritchard appeared for the petitioner, and there was no defence.—The parties were married in 1879 at Paddington. The respondent was in business in Fenchurch-street, but, not being successful, he said that he was going to Ireland, instead of which he went to Australia. He did not contribute to his support, although he was earning about £800 a year. On the 13th of April, 1887, he went through a ceremony of marriage at Melbourne with a girl of the name of Barbara Coslough, consequently this suit was brought.—His lordship granted a decree nisi, with costs, with liberty of the defendant to defend the marriage.

THE TRAM AND 'BUS MEN.

Meeting on Saturday Morning.

A meeting of the tram and 'bus men was held in the early hours of Saturday morning at the Sydney Hall, Battersea, under the presidency of Mr. John Burns. Men from all parts of London attended, many coming from places as far distant as Hampstead, Waltham Green, Stepney, &c. Shortly after one o'clock Mr. Burns spoke, and said there was no class of workmen in this large city who more required the sympathy of their fellow workmen than the overworked, badly paid, and worse treated tramway employees. The success of the unions that had been started in all trades during the past six or eight months must greatly encourage the tramway and omnibus men, and make them determined never to rest until their hours were shortened, and their reasonable demands were granted. Four months ago he thought that the tram men would show the same determination as the gas stokers, with the result that the mere threat to come out on strike would be sufficient to get their demands conceded. The tramway employees union had recruited 1,000 paying members in four months, out of 14,000. At this time there were cries of "shame," to which Mr. Burns replied, "No, it is not altogether a shame, there is something to be proud of. There is evidence of progress, and it is your job to get the other 13,000 in. If you try to do it you will succeed." Then the chairman went on:—"We must do something to get more men in. I have promised to give one night a week to hold meetings in every part of London wherever my services may be necessary. (Cheers.) Don't think by that that I am going to strike the South London men to-morrow. I would do it if I thought it would be successful—(cries of 'It would be!') He pointed out the danger of failure which must attend a strike on the South London line at present, and said that when the membership of the union had largely increased the companies would not be able to bring over their brothers from the other end of London to help them against their employers. Referring to the railway servants' movement, Mr. Burns remarked on the recent activity among the directors to see what could be done for the plate-layers, &c. Would they, he asked, have done anything but for last Sunday's meeting outside the Battersea Park gates? The result of that meeting had been that they had gained 2,000 members in a week.—One of the deputation to the South London Company's directors told the meeting that they were well received, and expressed great hope for the result.—Mr. Oaten, the union secretary, made a speech complaining that a tyrannical system—the most tyrannical he ever knew—was adopted on the several companies' roads. He urged them to join the union as the only remedy for their grievances.—Several members were enrolled at the close of the meeting.

SERIOUS CHARGE OF FRAUD.

At the Thames Police Court on Friday, Baron Bruno Felver Krantz, described as an Austrian, a "Knight of the Rose of Brazil," and an inventor, residing at Hillside, Mill-road, Hampstead, and Henri de Bogarts, a Dutchman, whose cards state him to be "General Administrator for Technical and Scientific Department, Bogarts' Reunited Patents Developing Company, Victoria Mansions, Westminster," also described as an inventor, and living at Mill-road, were charged on a warrant with obtaining £10 15s., from Charles Sykes Kelford, a butcher, of Mile End-road, by means of false pretences. There were a large number of persons present, who it was alleged had been defrauded by the prisoners by means of worthless cheques.—Boniface Knaap, a commission agent, of Maidment-street, Burdett-road, said that on the 25th inst. the prisoner Krantz, in whose service he had been for the last eight weeks, gave him a cheque drawn on Mrs. Adams and made payable to Henri Bogarts for £3 15s., which he asked the witness to get cashed for him, which he did. The prisoner afterwards asked the witness to change three more cheques for him. They were all drawn on Lloyd's Bank, Piccadilly. The witness went to the bank and asked if Mrs. Adams had an account there. He was told she had, and the witness then got the cheques cashed. When the witness handed the money to Krantz the prisoner paid him his wages out of it, and £5 on account of his father, who was to have £100 a year for teaching his (Krantz's) sons.—Detective-sergeant J. Gibbons said he had made inquiries in the case, and found the prisoners were in partnership in what appeared to be a bogus company, at 32, Victoria Mansions. The cheques had been passed wholesale, including three for £100 each. To show the magnitude of the prisoners' transactions, a memorandum was found on them to purchase the Albert Palace for £25,000. He should be able to show that the prisoners were not worth twenty-five pence.—Detective-sergeant Bradshaw said that on Krantz were found twenty-nine pawn-tickets, relating to diamond rings and other valuable property, which had no doubt been obtained by fraud.—Mr. Saunders remanded the prisoners.

A QUEEN POURS RUM UPON THE SANDS.

At the National Temperance Congress on Friday afternoon Canon Ellison, chairman of the Church of England Temperance Society, presiding over the session dealing with drink and native races, said that he, as a director of a corporation which had invested £20,000 in a brewery would endeavour to secure the withdrawal of the money.—The Queen of Madagascar poured upon the sands the rum which was forced upon her by England. Another speaker said the Duchess of Albany had invested £20,000 in one of the largest export breweries.

THE DEPTFORD POISONING CASES.

At the Central Criminal Court on Friday, Elizabeth Jane Frost, 30, who had been convicted of forgery in connection with the poisoning cases at Deptford, and against whom three charges of wilful murder were originally preferred, was brought up for judgment.—The Recorder said there was no doubt she had assisted her mother as much as she could, although there was not sufficient evidence to support the charge of murder. He sentenced her to seven years' penal servitude.

THE "CAT."

At the Central Criminal Court on Friday, Henry Tudor, 25, was indicted for a robbery with violence upon Thomas Griffiths, and stealing 28s. his property. A companion of the prisoner was convicted last session of being concerned in the assault and robbery, and was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour and to receive twenty-five lashes.—The prisoner was found guilty, and was sentenced to the same punishment as that ordered to be inflicted upon his associate in the robbery.

A TERRIBLE TALE OF THE SEA.

Cannibalism in a Boat.
Two Men Eaten.

Two men, named Graves and Loder, belonging to the crew of the British steamer *Earnmoor*, bound from Baltimore to Rio de Janeiro, which foundered near the Bahamas at the beginning of last month, as already reported, have arrived at Baltimore, and give heartrending details of the terrible privations and sufferings they underwent in their open boat. They state that William Robinson, one of those in the boat, died after they had been drifting some time, and that the ship's cook, who was also with them, was ordered to cut up the body of their comrade. The first thing done was to smash Robinson's skull, from which each of the survivors sucked the blood as long as it lasted. The cook then stripped the flesh from the ribs and dried it in the sun. After extracting the liver, heart, and other parts from which blood was procurable, the rest of the body was thrown overboard. Two days after Robinson's death, Hunt, the engineer, succumbed, and his body was also cut up for food. After about three days the limbs of the survivors began to swell, and several ugly sores appeared. Graves and Loder declare that they do not recollect the taste of the flesh, so great was their mental anguish at the time.—The horrible suspicion which have been entertained for some time about the wreck of the British steamer *Earnmoor* have been confirmed by the statements of some of the survivors. Loder says:—"The only food we had for the first fourteen days in the boat was flying fish and a few raw small seabirds, which were divided among eleven men. On the sixteenth day Davis caught me by the throat, and made a dash at my head with a knife. When Davis began to cut me, some one caught hold of him; others shouted, 'Kill him; we want something to eat.' It seems that Plague, Davis, and others had decided that I should die; I suppose being pretty fat. I looked inviting. Plague was placed on the watch that night; he was missing next morning. No one saw him go overboard. On the seventeenth day Robinson lay down to sleep; when they tried to call him they found him dead." The narrative admits that the men ate portions of this body, and threw the rest into the sea. The story continues:—"Two days after Robinson's death Engineer Hunt died; his body was also cut up. In about three days the limbs and feet of all began to swell; several have since broken out in ugly sores—we think as a consequence of our unnatural food." The *Earnmoor* foundered in a cyclone on September 5th off Turk's Island. Eleven vessels passed the wreck, which drifted helplessly until it was picked up off Cape Hatteras.

A CLERGYMAN SUSPENDED.

Lord Penance, judge of the Court of Arches, sitting in his own room at the House of Lords on Friday, heard the case of *Swayne v. Benson*, which arose out of the refusal of the Rev. Percy Jones Benson, vicar of Hoo St. Werburgh, near Rochester, to administer the Holy Communion to Mrs. Swayne on the ground that she attended a Wesleyan chapel.—Lord Penance, in giving judgment, said it was clear that Mrs. Swayne attended the Rev. P. J. Benson's church on the 5th of May, 1888, and offered herself as a receiver of the Holy Sacrament, but the reverend gentleman purposely passed her over. That was her complaint, and it had been fully proved. This refusal was an undoubted breach of the canonical law. Lord Penance referred to a letter which the reverend gentleman had written for the purpose of pointing out that he had no intention to obey any admonition of the court. Lord Penance said the offence was complete, and the sentence of the court was that the defendant be suspended *officio et beneficio* for one year. This, however, would not preclude the court from reaching the sentence should the reverend gentleman in the meanwhile administer the sacrament to Mrs. Swayne in the event of that lady presenting herself for the purpose.—Costs were given against the defendant, who did not appear either in person or by counsel.

THE THREE-CARD TRICK.

At the Guildhall Police Court on Friday, Frederick Atkins, 35, described as a commission agent, residing in his own house, was charged with obtaining by means of the three-card trick, £100 from John Sutcliffe, engineer, of Brunswick-street, Waterloo, near Liverpool, said that he was in a train coming up from Newmarket to Liverpool-street on Thursday evening. He was in a third-class carriage, and the prisoner and three other men entered. After passing Bishop's Stortford (the last stopping-place) the prisoner produced a pack of cards and said, "Now, gentlemen, I wish to entertain you a little. I bet anybody a bottle of champagne that he will not pick out the card"—the king of clubs, which he had previously thrown down. He threw down the three cards, but no one in the carriage would take them. The prisoner then said, "I am going to say, will any one take it on?" The man opposite took it on and won. From that they went up to a sovereign, the man opposite invariably winning. When the stake amounted to £1, the witness was induced to try his luck. He, however, lost, and in trying to get his money back lost another £1. The prisoner then said he would not play for less than £5. The other man then put £5 on and lost it. The prisoner then said he would take £5 to £22 that the witness would not find the card. Seeing the edge of the card turned up, and thinking it to be the right one, the witness put his £5 on and lost it. His losses in the train were £7. He did not play any more, as he only had a few shillings left. When they arrived at Liverpool-street the prisoner packed up his things and hurried off, the man who had sat opposite following him. Noticing that they seemed nervous witness followed and gave the prisoner into custody. The other man got away.—Police-constable Phillips said he arrested the prisoner, and found £20 on him.—Mr. Alderman Evans sentenced him to twenty-one days' hard labour, and said he had no sympathy with the prosecutor, as he richly deserved losing his money. Had the prosecutor won nothing would have been heard of the case.

SAVING LIFE AT SEA.

The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office the following rewards, given by the German Government to British seamen in recognition of services rendered to German crews:—A binocular glass to Mr. D. McMillan, master of the s.s. *Antrim*, of Belfast, for his services in rescuing the crew of the ship *Theresa* (Itzer), in November, 1888. A gold watch to Mr. Oscar Thorlander, master; a night glass to Richard Smith, second mate; and £5 each to A. C. Jederman and C. Hogeblon, seamen, of the s.s. *Edmond*, of Hull, for their services in rescuing the crew of the brig *Elizabeth*, of Memel, in the same month.

OUR OMNIBUS.

THE M.P.

The "flowing tide" about which the Separatist speakers and newspapers crow so lustily does not wear analysis. On submitting the hypothesis to a test, I find that the polling at the bye-elections since the last general election shows very little change of political feeling in the country. At these forty-four constituencies, the aggregate Separatist poll in 1886 was some 3,000 ahead of the Unionist poll. At the present the Gladstonian surplus is about 11,000, showing an apparent gain of 8,000. But the polling at the bye-elections was heavier by about a third, and when allowance is made for that, the increase comes down considerably.

Even, however, if the figures be taken as they stand, they amount to very little. Dividing 8,000 by 44, we get 180 as the average Gladstonian gain in each constituency, or equivalent to the transfer of 90 electors from the one side to the other. Truly, a small matter for the Government has real cause for wonder in the nature of things electoral, the attacking party always has an enormous advantage. It can be prodigious of promises, whereas Ministerialists have always to keep their pledges within the limits of possible performance.

The broad result of the recent conferences at Hawarden seems to be a determination to keep mum as to the outlines of the next Home Rule scheme. Mr. Gladstone and his English colleagues are believed to favour the retention of Irish representation at Westminster, but their master, Mr. Parnell, is extremely hostile to the idea. He finds it quite as tactful enough to control and to subsidise one set of "items," a second batch would render his task too arduous. Besides, the continuance of Irish members in the House of Commons would naturally attract the pick of the basket to that market, leaving only the residuum for the Dublin Parliament.

Unionist candidates do not, I think, lay sufficient stress on the legislative achievements of the present Government on behalf of the true test of empire. When all is said and done, it might have done, but what it has done, judged from this standpoint, is not very brilliant. Administration comes out with a few shining colours. It has demonstrated local government in England, Scotland, and Wales; it has legislated in a variety of ways to meet the real requirements of the people; it has immensely diminished the burden of the National Debt; it has largely increased the efficiency of our defensive forces; and, best of all, neither wars nor warlike complications have once disturbed British serenity. No Government of modern times could show a similar record for three years.

The magnificent reception given to Mr. Balfour at Manchester was a knock-down blow to the local Separatists. They have been sedulously endeavouring to undermine his popularity in Cottonopolis in the hope of bringing about his rejection by the East Division at the next general election. He only secured the seat by a majority of 644, an overplus which might be easily swept away, it was imagined, by turning on the tap of misrepresentation and calumny. Fortunately, the Manchesterians are not that way built; their robust intelligence throws off the way of a duck's back does water, and the only result of the torrent of vilification is to make Mr. Balfour's seat safer than ever.

The same scandalous tactics are being employed, I understand, to oust Lord Hartington from the representation of the Rosendale Division. Gladstonian emissaries go about from village to village declaring that he is the one obstacle to the restoration of the Liberal party to power. They even go so far as to allege, I am informed, that Mr. Gladstone is prepared to "chuck over" Mr. Parnell and Home Rule if his former colleague makes that the price of rejoining his standard. Therefore, so runs the specious argument, the continuance of the Liberal party must be Lord Hartington's fault, and all true Liberals ought to unite to humble his pride. The Liberal Unionist leader can well afford to laugh at these stupid mendacities; the Rosendale electors are much too smart to be taken in by such transparent fables.

It would be impossible to pass too heavy censure on those undisciplined persons who turn themselves forward as Unionist candidates at bye-elections after the party has already chosen its champion. The Brighton contest has been exceptionally prolific of this kind. At first it was a Mr. Hannah who projected himself from the clouds as an independent Unionist candidate. No sooner did he withdraw, than Mr. Parker Rhodes rushed to the front. Now, both of these gentlemen must have known that they had no more chance of winning the seat than of being drawn up to heaven. Why, then, did they obtrude themselves on the constituency? That remains to be explained. The most charitable surmise is that they were influenced by a "divine hunger" for cheap notoriety.

OLD IZAAK.

The Windsor and Eton Angling Association are about to introduce another lot of trout this season into that part of the Thames under their control. I hear that on the present occasion "yearlings" will be turned in instead of fry; and although an extra outlay will have to be made by the purchase of the older fish, every one will agree with the executive of the W. and E.A.A., that they are making a move in the right direction, which certainly will prove most beneficial and more remunerative in the near future. The trout generally and committee appeal for the fish to be secured a very large quantity of roach, carp, tench, and other coarse fish, which Mr. Bambridge, of Eton, is about to net from private waters for turning into the Thames near Windsor.

Mr. Henry House, of the Clapton Angling Society, writes:—"The Romney Marsh Fishery, adjoining the Government waters at Waltham, lately rented by Mr. Francis (deceased), has now been rented by the Lea Conservancy to me. I have arranged that my society fish it exclusively. It is a great pleasure to me to have been able to carry this matter out as the founder of the Clapton Angling Society and hon. secretary since its formation." To those of my readers who do not know the exact locality of this fishery, it may interest them if I state it lies mid-way between Enfield Lock and Waltham Abbey. The water having been well looked after for some time past, is full of fish, and I congratulate the C.A.S. and their energetic hon. secretary in securing the sole right of angling.

A handsome barbel weighing 12lb. has been caught by James Whale, fisherman, Hampton Court. It measured thirty inches in length and fifteen inches round the girth, and was taken fifteen minutes with a bait on a No. 9 leger fishing. With graves as bait, on a No. 9 leger fishing. The capture of such a splendid fish as this must have been at the same station on the river as the large roach caught by Mr. J. W. Ellison is worthy of special notice, as for many years past no such specimen of a barbel has been caught in the lower Thames. I have been told on reliable information of a largest on record in the jack way, which is known to have taken up its quarters in Hampton Deep, nearly opposite Garrick's Villa.

Information having been sent to the secretary of the Thames Angling Preservation Society of the capture of a 4lb. trout by one of the licensed netmen of Strand-on-the-Green, the head river-keeper of that society was immediately sent off to give the netman the usual reward and effect recovery of the fish, which was at once taken and turned again into the river at Teddington.

The intermittent deluge of rain which has fallen will have a beneficial effect upon all the

waters near London in clearing away the weeds and giving height and tone to the water. After a few days of more settled weather, the rivers will have run down into good order. I expect to hear of some heavy bags being made. As there have not been any frosts to hurt, barbel may still be tried with every chance of success.

Two gentlemen fishing for two hours in the Sussex Stour one day last week, from three to five o'clock, captured a nice lot of fish. Among the united bag weighing just over 45lb. Among the fish were one of 1lb. 2oz., two of 1lb. 4oz., five of 1lb. 3oz., and three of 1lb. 2oz. At Chesham, on the Lea, a well-known London angler in two days' fishing, 22lb. of roach, several good perch and dace, four bream, and a jack of 10lb. At Kingston-on-Thames, a bank angler named Knight has caught a fine barbel weighing 8lb.

In answer to my correspondent, "J. Rine's," query, "Whether there is any fishing (free or otherwise) to be had in the Brent River in the neighbourhood of Willesden Junction?" I would point out that the Brent does not run closer to Willesden Junction than Perivale and Greenford, both about three miles distant. The fishing is free, as far as I know, but permission to get at it must be obtained from the farmers through whose land it flows. I should advise "J. R." to try the Welsh Harp Fishery at Hendon, where there is at times fair coarse fishing, and at this season of year some good jack may be caught. The Brent flows through the centre of the reservoir. The Grand Junction Canal is the nearest water to Willesden.

PIPER PAN.

Adelina Patti last Monday attracted an immense audience to the Albert Hall. Mr. Kube had engaged Madame Patti, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Foote, and other excellent artists, but it was Patti who filled the hall, and to my thinking those people are about who complain of her receiving so large a sum as £700 for singing at a concert, when there is no doubt but that she draws more than double that amount. Two friends of mine had for journey from Blackheath to Kennington for nothing on Monday last, although willing to pay premiums for reserved seats or stalls. They found it impossible to obtain reserved seats in any part of the Albert Hall, and scores of other applicants were also disappointed. None of them would have gone to the concert had not Patti been announced.

The great prima donna's high notes are less brilliant, and their compass is less extensive than when she first appeared before an English audience, May 14th, 1861, but the quality of her voice is as delicious as ever. Of course she was compelled to accept encores for her two solos, substituting "The Last Rose of Summer" for "Ave Maria," and "Home Sweet Home" for "Ave Maria." Bishop's "Home Sweet Home" I was glad to notice that she phrased every line of the ballad properly, but regretted to find her repeating the absurdly unsuitable operatic cadenza which she has for many years introduced at the close of the last verse.

Why should opera and concert singers be allowed to take liberties with secular music which they dare not take with ecclesiastical music? The celebrated Italian buffo, Ferranti, told me that while on a tour with Bateman's concert party in America, he was required to sing the bass part in Verdi's "Stabat Mater" at a Roman Catholic church one Sunday morning. He refused, but Bateman proved that he had the right to make all his artists sing—sacred music in the morning, and when it came his turn to sing a solo passage, he introduced a heap of scales, shakes, and other operatic embellishments. The congregation were astounded, the priests enraged, and one of them was commissioned to request a more reverent adherence to the score.

Ferranti promised to do his best, but when his chief solo arrived, he let loose another torrent of cadenzas, and was requested to leave the solo unfinished. In reply to the indignant remonstrances, after service, he stated that he was a baritone buffo, and could not sing in any other manner. "Dei nevar ask me to sing on Sundays no more!" said Ferranti.

Mr. H. J. Leslie and his colleagues in the management of the Promenade Concerts at Her Majesty's Theatre must be congratulated on the results of their liberal offer of a prize of £50 for the best MS. "suite for orchestra," and £10 for the best "orchestral waltz." Sixty compositions were sent in for examination by Dr. A. C. Mackenzie and other eminent musicians, and the first prize was won by Ferdinand Dunsley, a 25-year-old pupil of the Royal College of Music, the second by Mr. Edward Seymour, a member of the Unionist Club. Several well-known professional musicians competed for the prizes.

I fancy that Mr. Seymour's waltz is over-orchestrated, but it is melodious and piquant. Mr. Dunkley's "suite" shows him to be an accomplished musician, but I shall reserve my opinion on its merits until after a second hearing.

Mr. Freeman Thomas generously opened the doors of Covent Garden free to sailors and soldiers in uniform, or wearing medals on Monday last (Friday) and on Friday (Saturday) last. Many of our brave defenders availed themselves of this opportunity of hearing the fine band, and were fraternally greeted by numbers of the patriotic visitors. The musical performances during the week have been excellent.

Let me remind my readers that the great Spanish violinist, Sarasate, will depart for America almost immediately after his third concert at St. James's Hall on Saturday, November 2nd. Seats at all prices, from one shilling upwards, can be obtained, and those who have not yet heard this wonderful performer should profit by the opportunities now offered.

At the third of the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts, November 2nd, a new concert-overture, "Robert Bruce," will be played for the first time in public. I think it must be admitted that Mr. Mannes loses no fair opportunity of encouraging our native artists, and the new overture is from the pen of an English composer, Mr. F. J. Simpson.

I am glad to find that my prediction concerning the new works recently produced at the Leeds Musical Festival has been confirmed. The compositions of Drs. Hubert Parry and Villiers Stanford have been placed by a general consensus of judgment at the head of the new works, most of which are likely to be shelved.

The only probable exception is Dr. A. C. Mackenzie's "Pibroch" concerto for violin, which is likely to prove popular as long as Señor Sarasate (for whom it was written) is at hand to contend with its formidable difficulties. There are few violinists capable of playing this intricate work.

I am sorry, but not surprised, to learn that my unfavourable judgments of other works introduced at the Leeds Festival have annoyed certain composers, who smile benignly while praised, but scowl when mildly censured. 'Twas ever thus. A quarter of a century ago a relative of mine visited an American friend who had an estate in the South, and employed a large number of slaves, who were treated with great kindness, but could not keep their hands from picking and stealing. My kinsman attended their Sunday service, after which the negro preacher asked him how he liked the sermon.

The reply was complimentary, and Sambo grinned. Then came the remark, "I think you should preach to your people on the sinfulness of theft—stealing fowls, and eggs." Sambo's face became gloomy, and he rejoined, "Well, sah, I Ahb tried that stile; but—somehow or

other—it allus seemed to throw a kind o' coolness ober de meetin'." I can heartily sympathise with Sambo.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

The Suez Canal has conferred inestimable benefits on humanity, but one of its favours might have been dispensed with. There is no further question that it has been the means of introducing into the Mediterranean the ferocious shark of the Indian Ocean. This has been suspected for some time, but suspicion has now become certainty owing to the capture of a shark in the Mediterranean with a man in its inside. There is not much likelihood, however, that the Eastern monster will extend its pilgrimages to the British coasts. Our insular waters are too cold for its tastes, not to mention the multiplicity of steamers churning up the sea by day and by night.

I was much surprised the other day at the meal which a young snake of mine partook of. The frog had been intended for a much larger grass snake, and was considered even a very large mouthful for him. Much was my astonishment therefore when the little fellow, who is only about eight or nine inches long, took down the amphibian without much difficulty. It formed a large lump in his inside for several days, though.

When passing through Seven Dials, I noticed another instance of animal voracity. In a square tank there were several tiny pike—about as long as a little finger. Suddenly the smallest of them made for a sick minnow, which was breathing at the top of the water. The minnow was a large one, and was only a very little shorter than the pike. The latter seized the unfortunate little invalid by the tail and commenced to eat up towards his body. At last he touched the minnow in some tender spot, for the latter dashed off through the water, and his tormentor, quite powerless to hold him back, was dragged along after him. Still he would not leave go, but hung on with bulldog-like grip until the minnow, feeling exhausted, again rose to the surface. When I left the pike had made a considerable advance up the body of the other, and time seemed to be no doubt as to how the contest would end.

The twenty-first annual cat show at the Crystal Palace has just come off. It has, I believe, been very successful, both as to the number and quality of the exhibits, for which a goodly number of prizes are now offered. Cats have been domesticated animals for a very long time—not so long, probably, as the dog—and it is quite uncertain from what species they are sprung. It probably has now become extinct in the same way as the wild camel has. Although camels are so numerous as beasts of burden, there is no record of a genuine wild one having ever been shot or seen. It has been said that a pussy is uncommon in the British Islands, but when the structural differences taken into account this seems improbable. We know that the ancient Egyptians used to keep and used to worship cats, and their embalmed remains have been found. The Greeks in the earliest period of their history are known to have had them, and the Romans also. So that, from whatever stock they may be descended, there is no doubt that our domestic mouser has been the servant of the human race for a very long time indeed. It is only fair to mention, however, that the puss of the Romans and Greeks mentioned above may, perhaps, not have been a cat at all, but a white-breasted marten.

A correspondent at Hatfield sends me an account of a wonderfully prolific hen, which has laid seventy-five eggs since the 15th July, and is still at it, although moulting so badly as more resemble a hedgehog than a bird. Previous to this brilliant performance in laying, she was given thirteen duck's eggs to amuse herself with, and so successfully did she address herself to the toil of incubation that a dozen ducklings were hatched out.

The earthworms at Gipsland, Victoria, would astonish the British farmer if they appeared in his fields. They are six feet long, and of proportionate bulk, but as modest as the British species. Of all creatures that run away if presented with entering the ground it is at the mercy of any assailant, however puny. Even the frog, timid as he is, tackles the biggest worms without a moment's hesitation. The poor thing has many enemies and few friends, although a great benefactor to mankind by his underground operations. I have never heard of any savage worshipping the worm; the snake, a far less useful member of society, comes in for adoration in many lands.

An ignominious fate, truly, for a royal Bengal tiger to tumble into a well, and be peeped by a bunch of uninitiated native marksmen. This incident occurred the other day at a village in the Bombay Presidency. When the villagers first heard the savage growling of the entrapped animal, their inclination was to get away as fast as they could. But on observing that the awful sound appeared to be stationary they plucked up courage, approached the well, and saw what had occurred. Then every one became amazingly courageous; rusty matchlocks were brought out, and, after a long and erratic fusillade, the royal beast was done to death. Its mate is said to be roaming about disconsolate. I pity any native who falls in her way.

THE ACTOR.

"Ninon," the play by Mr. Wells, in which Miss Wallis is scoring heavily at the Grand, has been in existence for a quarter of a century, though it was not performed till February, 1850. I have before me a little pamphlet, printed "for private circulation only," dated 1854, and containing "St. Cyr," a play in four acts, by W. G. Wells, author of "Wife's Evidence," &c. This was the first form that the play now called "Ninon" took, and it is very interesting to compare it with the drama seen originally at the Adelphi and now being represented up at Islington.

St. Cyr is here "a deputy," and Beaupre is not a priest, but St. Cyr's "biographer." The only female part is that of Madame St. Cyr, mother (not, as now, sister) of the hero. The dialogue and construction of "St. Cyr" differ a good deal from those of "Ninon," the denouement being tragic. Ninon is killed by a member of the revolutionary mob, and she, being the only witness against St. Cyr, his life is saved.

Here is a specimen of the dialogue to be found both in "Ninon" and in "St. Cyr." Ninon is instructing St. Cyr how to please a woman. She says:—

In your idle pleasantries
Still give a headway to some graver meaning.
You light her by an everlasting smile.
Tell her those cares which you would hide from men,
For woman is physician to the heart.
And kiss the poison—never loving more
Than when the loved one suffers.

The play is full of equally excellent passages. Among the minor humours of the first night of "Caprice" at the Globe was the unavailing effort of a gentleman in one of the boxes to induce any one on the stage to come for a big basket of flowers. The certain fall, and it was not until Miss Fuller and others came before it, in reply to a "call," that the flowers were seen and taken. Some irrelevant persons were much amused by Mr. Maclean's "make-up," his adoption of a moustache giving him, at first sight, a sort of resemblance to Mr. Alfred Cellier.

There was a disposition at one period of the evening rather to "zag" the piece, but I am glad to say better counsels prevailed, and some very slow, not to say tedious, scenes were listened to with exemplary patience. The photographs of Miss Fuller, which were distributed in the stalls, hardly do that originally lady justice. She has

pleasant features, and, whatever her mood, presents a very attractive picture. After this, I may perhaps be permitted to say that I do not much care for her rather "skimpy" "gown" in the last act.

The "A. G. C." who has written the piece which now proceeds "La Prima Donna" at the Avenue, is Lady Adelaide Cadogan, the authoress of more than one pretty little drawing-room play, and an amateur actress of more than usual ability.

The news of the week is the announcement of Mrs. Langtry's forthcoming tenancy of the St. James's Theatre. It is a happy choice of venue. The St. James's is the most westerly of our theatres, and Mrs. Langtry is emphatically a fashionable actress. I do not mean that she has not attractions for the humbler classes of playgoers, for she has; but she was a star of society before she was a star of the stage, and from society she is likely to receive a very large measure of support.

"Nance Oldfield," the one-act comedy in which Mrs. Langtry is about to figure while on tour, is an adaptation from the French by the late Charles Reade. The most recent exponent of the rôle of Nance was Miss Genevieve Ward, who was seen in the part during one of her brief seasons at the Lyceum. The other leading rôle was played by Mr. W. H. Vernon.

It has been freely stated of late that at the conclusion of the run of "Doris," Mr. Haydon Coffin will become a member of the Prince of Wales's company. That, however, can hardly be, for Mr. Coffin has been cast for a part in the opera which is to succeed "Doris" at the Lyric. Miss Tempest, Mr. Davies, and Mr. Williams have also had rôles allotted to them.

The recitation which Mr. Willard will give at Miss Maude Brennan's benefit at the Avenue on the 31st, will be Dante Rossetti's "A Last Confession," originally spoken by him (also for a benefit) at the Olympic Theatre, some months ago. He then "made up" for the part, and had proper scenic surroundings. The sketch, "A Pair of Lunatics," in which Mr. George Alexander and Miss Maud Millett will appear, was first played by those clever young artists at a concert held in Grosvenor House last year. It is as mirth-provoking as "A Last Confession" is gruesome.

Mr. Brandon Thomas, who has written the new play for the Princess's, is a young dramatist from whom much may be expected. His "Highland Legacy" showed the possession of both of humour and of pathos, and his previous little efforts in the dramatic line all had decided merit. Mr. Brandon is an educated as well as a clever man, and his work always has literary attractions.

GENERAL CHATTER.

That the English working classes should covet and demonstrate for higher rates of remuneration is a demand for which there is no precedent. The demand remains, nevertheless, that the collective demand granted, our toilers would be no better off than they are at present. They would, it is true, receive more in wages, but at whose expense? At their own, as consumers; every commodity of which they make use would command an enhanced value. Give higher pay to railway men, journeymen bakers, shop assistants, postmen, and gutta-percha workers, and the immediate result would be higher railway fares, dearer bread, dearer goods, dearer correspondence, and dearer telegraphs.

A striking instance of this economic law is now to be seen in the Argentine Republic. Ordinary labourers there receive 12s. a day, but so excessive is the cost of living, owing to the depreciation of the currency, that they cannot make both ends meet, although bread and meat are dirt cheap. It is the same at the South African gold fields, where a wage of 21s. a day does not suffice to provide the recipient with a comfortable living.

The excessive rainfall in London during the last three weeks has some attendant advantages. It has washed the air for one thing; for another, it must have cleansed the sewers better than any amount of flushing. All the same, Cockneydom could well afford to dispense for a time with any more favours from Jupiter Pluvius. He means well, no doubt, but he never knows when to leave off when once he begins.

The illustrious Barnum certainly understands how to attract public attention to his show. His monster placards are always hedged in by a dense fringe of gaping humanity, and we may depend upon it that most of the stargazers mentally resolve to see the show or die. From an artistic standpoint, these posters are not in it with Messrs. Pears' really tasteful productions, but if the purpose of street advertising be to catch the wayfarer's eye, Mr. Barnum's method must be confessed superior.

Having mastered cricket and soared to football, our "sweet girl graduates" are now turning their attention to boxing as an essential of feminine culture. A merry mill with the "mittens" is said to have taken place the other day between two promising pupils at a girls' high school. They countered, and fiddled, and uppercut with the most scientific precision, and when the battle ended claret was flowing freely from both of their chiselled noses, while their lovely eyes had to be poulticed with raw beefsteaks. The prize was, I understand, a box of bonbons.

Reading in a book of travels that at a certain part of the ocean "the whole surface was covered with Portuguese men-of-war," an elderly gentleman of my acquaintance expressed surprise at the wonderful growth of the Portuguese Navy. "England must have a care," he sagely observed, "or her maritime supremacy will be wrested from her." He looked rather put out when informed that the term "Portuguese man-of-war" is applied to a pretty little shell-fish of the nautilus family, which sails about the ocean in prodigious fleets.

A pious young man, with Exeter Hall proclivities is very anxious for an engraving as a detector of improprieties at music halls and other places of popular entertainment. He would not require any salary, but bargains for the payment of all necessary expenses, such as champagne, soda-and-whisky, cigars, suppers, stall tickets, and handsums. He feels convinced that in the course of two or three months he would be qualified for platform exhibition as a "frightful example."

There is woe and consternation among itinerant photographers at the prospect of soon finding themselves superseded by an automatic rival. This wonderful machine only requires to be fed with a copper or two to turn out a "speaking likeness" in next to no time. One artist with whom I conversed on the subject, expressed unbounded contempt for the invention. "So far as the mechanical part of the work goes, it may succeed well enough," he observed; "but where is the genius to come from? And without genius photography is nothing."

The Sultan of Zanzibar has just decreed that all children born in his dominions after the 1st of January shall be free. Rather hard on the babies that the Zanzibar world in November and December. Supposing, for instance, that some worthy matron were to present her husband with twins, the one born just before the clock struck midnight on the 31st of December and the other a few minutes after that hour. The elder would be doomed to slavery all his life; the younger would be free. Truly are the rights of primogeniture read very much backwards at sweet Zanzibar.

There was nearly being a pretty row outside one of the West-end music halls the other evening. An incorrigible practical joker exclaimed, in a loud voice, "There goes old M'Dougall!" at the same time pointing to an elderly gentleman in

sober raiment who happened to be passing. As ill-luck would have it, the elderly one just then happened to be carrying a book. "The old rascal's going to take notes" was the cry, and in a moment a surging mass of enraged feminine humanity went for him. Luckily police protection was at hand, or that respectable old boy would have learnt to his cost how unpopular the name of M'Dougall has become.

MR. WHEELER.

The continued wet weather has been a bitter disappointment to the wheeling world. We all hoped that the latter moiety of October would prove bright and dry, so that we might have a few more runs for our money before the long winter. For the last fortnight I have had pleasant little excursions waiting to come off, but it must now be abandoned for good, the roads having got into such a deplorable condition as would render the outing much more of a toil than a pleasure. So farewell to the delights of the road until next spring.

If your machine gets out of order send it to the maker; he is more likely to see what is wrong with the mechanism than any repairer. Such is the advice generally given by old hands, and excellent it is from a theoretical standpoint. Practically, however, there is the serious drawback that makers often take an unconscionable time to execute repairs. I suspect that they sometimes put them off until business is slack. At all events, it is quite a common thing for some months to elapse before the machine comes back to its owner. I know of one instance in which a bicycle was returned to its maker so long ago as last August for a small rectification, and there it still remains, much to its owner's disgust.

I trust that the fair correspondent who wrote to me some time ago about establishing a ladies' cycling club in London has put her own shoulder to the wheel. The institution would undoubtedly supply a real want, there being numbers of feminine cyclists who do not care to join masculine clubs. I do not know what their objections may be; perhaps they fear that their charms might set the more inflammable members on fire, and so lead to envy, jealousy, and all uncharitable. Be that as it may, I trust to see the proposed club established before next season begins.

Not without a secret sense of guilt for I saw a hansom collide with a motor, he cart near Leicester-square the other night. The two vehicles approached at right angles, and on coming near another cabby did all he knew to pull up. But the haughty man of meat scorned to check his wild career for a moment, and the consequence was that the shaft ends of the cab caught fire on the side and capsized him very neatly into the middle of the road. Remembering how often I have been nearly ridden over by wild butchers, I felt inclined to give three cheers. That would have been very wrong, of course, but human nature is, like Topsy, "dreadful wicked."

Among the innumerable hygienic advantages of cycling, not the least is its blessedness as a fat dispenser. I am not troubled with superfluous adipose tissue, but some of my friends are, and I always recommend them to go a-wheeling. In every instance where this advice has been followed, the desired result has attended. At first the sufferer should go very easily and limit his daily grind to a few miles on level roads. After a week or two of this, his muscles will harden and his weight diminish. He may then extend his rides to twelve or fifteen miles, and increase the pace, always taking care to avoid exhaustion. I go bail that, by strictly adhering to this system, the corpulent will eventually get rid of some stones of fat.

Some of the cycling papers argue that the proposal to tax cycles is too absurd to be treated seriously. Absurd it is, I grant, to the verge of idiocy. All the same, it seems highly desirable to strengthen Mr. Goschen's resisting powers when the wisacres attempt to put pressure on him. Their argument is that, by allowing the van and cart tax to drop, he deprives the local governing authorities of £300,000 a year that he had covanted to give them, and to make good that loss in some measure they urge him to pick the pockets of wheelmen. It would be a case, of course, of robbing Peter to pay Paul, but Chancellors of the Exchequer have done worse things before now under pressure from powerful interests.

"Little Lady" asks my opinion as to whether there is any harm in accompanying her masculine cousin on a tandem. The reason for this odd question is that when she lately took a ride in his company, all the lady friends she met scowled at her and cocked their noses in the air as if she were committing a deadly sin. Envy, my dear young lady; pure envy. Depend upon it, your cousin had given a good deal to be seen in your place—especially if the cousin happens to be good looking. There is no more harm in a maiden going a-wheeling with a reputable young man than in her walking or dancing with him.

"BALACLAVA!"

(October 25th, 1854.)

O'er bleak Crimean hills the wild winds moan and sweep,
Where in lonely graves Britannia's heroes sleep:
Yet shall their deeds live on history's scroll,
Till cannons cease to roar and drums have ceased to roll.

On Balacava's plain
The cannon belched forth flame,
Our troops stood firm, but when
They saw the Turkish host
From battalions
Their hearts grew restless then.
The Frenchmen saw the charge of horse
And cheered them on their fiery course.
As plumes and pennons flouted;
Along the ranks the trumpets rang,
"The line advance," and every man
Rode onward to death undaunted!

And now the sabres clash,
As through the guns they dash;
Bold Cardigan led the way;
Our troopers thrust and back
The Muscovite Cossack.
And victory's gained that day!
As with a warrior's loud hurrah,
They charged the squadrons of the Czar.
It is a gallant story,
Along the ranks the order ran,
"Retake the guns!" and horse and man
Rushed onward to death and glory.

At last the fight is o'er,
Dread tragedy of war,
Famed deed of chivalry.
But where's the cavalry?
Horse and man are strewn around,
The shot-torn battle ground,
Dragon and lancer, and Hussar,
Lie dead with many an honour'd scar.
But never shall die the story
Of how the valiant Cardigan
Charged on the guns, when every man
Rode onward for England's glory.
ARTHUR H. MARSHALL,
8th V.B. King's Royal Rifles.

It is reported that the Mexican Government has been robbed of bonds amounting in value to over two million dollars. The bonds are said to have been already sold in London.

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From Moonshine.)
 Lady Dilke has visited the Cradley Heath nail-makers, and suggests, as a remedy for their troubles, that they should combine. What on earth is the use of their combining to raise the price of nails, when foreign nails, imported at half their price, will disestablish them altogether if they do? Whether free trade is right or wrong, the disasters of Cradley Heath are the result of free trade. The only thing for Cradley Heath to do with its nails, under present economic conditions, is to cut them.

We are threatened with a boot and shoe corner in America which is to flood and undersell the British market. Our own experience is that boots and shoes are already a good deal too cheap very often to wear well, therefore we take no delight in this Yankee announcement—it seems too shoddy.

Mr. Labouchere told the Scotch folk last week that he had obstructed the Government, and would go on obstructing it. We give Mr. Labouchere all due credit for his intentions. At the same time he is, perhaps, not the most perfect that it would be difficult enough for any one to get over Mr. Labouchere's on the other hand, would it be equally difficult to see through him?

Should the Lord Mayor's Show walk or ride on the 9th November? It appears that there is a difficulty because, being Saturday, it is the Jewish Sabbath. We do not see, ourselves, why the show should not be able to walk before the banquet. It would be different, perhaps, if the procession were to take place after the banquet was over.

The London County Council, after a strict investigation, condemns its impotence to do away with the London fog. All they can do is to tell us what everybody else knows before-hand, that blacks come out of chimneys. But they do not see their way to do any good even there, we suppose, unless the chimneys apply for a music hall license.

A TERRIBLE RESULT.
 Scene: Mr. Elias. Enter Mr. Elias Raven (chapel trustee, school board representative, and county councillor).

Mrs. Raven: Elias, you're late. The tea and muffins are cold. [Sternly.] Where have you been?

Mr. R.: At the council licensing meeting, my love. [Hums an air.]

Mrs. R.: Elias, that is not a hymn. For shame! What is it?

Mr. R.: No, my love. [Sings.] "Oh, I love the girls, and they all love me." [Mrs. R. shrieks and faints. Enter Mary Jane with the tea. Mr. R. goes up to her and chuckles her under the chin, humming, "I'm a simple little thing."]

Mary: Lor, sir, would you like to go to a music hall?

Mr. R.: Mary, would you like to go to a music hall?

Mary: Lor, sir, what will missus say?

Mr. R.: Hush! not a word. She's coming round.

Mrs. R. (recovering as Mary leaves the room): Elias, are you mad?

Mr. R. (inspiring about and singing): No, my love. "But oh, I do love dancing."

Mrs. R.: How terrible! You're off your head, Elias.

Mr. R. (standing on his head, then turning a cartwheel across the room): Excuse me, I'm on it.

Mrs. R.: You've lost your senses.

Mr. R.: Not a bit. [Singing.] "I've got 'em on."

Mrs. R.: Elias, no more of this folly, if you please. What have you been doing?

Mr. R.: Licensing the music halls, my sweet. [Sticks his hat on the back of his head and his thumbs in his armpits.]

Mrs. R.: Licensing, indeed! There's a great deal too much license about you. Remember who you are.

Mr. R. (singing):
 I'm the chap of the "Cri," dear boy,
 And the darling girls all do me;
 I will whisper to you why, dear boy,
 I'm the chap of the "Cri," don'tchersee.

[Dances round the table as Mrs. Raven again falls fainting.]

(From Punch.)

HAPPY THOUGHT.—"Why, my boy, you've spelt window without an N. Don't you know the difference between a window and a widow?"

"Yes, sir. You can see through one—and—and—you can't see through the other, sir."

FILIAL PIETY.—Innocuous Youth: May I have this dance?—The Bishop's Daughter: Thanks, no! I never dance round dances in my father's diocese!

HORSEMANSHIP AND CHAIRMANSHIP.—Mr. Punch sincerely congratulates "Mr. Rosebery" on his recovery and on his pluck in taking the chair at the London County Council, and sticking to the business in such a thorough manner as he did last Friday. The Muck Dougal and Charitable Charrington must feel that "approbation from Mr. Rosebery" is praise indeed! As an equestrian may be never experience a tumble, and as chairman of the L.C.C., may no longer be able to keep his seat.

MEM. FOR THE DIRECTORS.—The Aquarium ought certainly not to be a place for "loose fish."

(From Judy.)

THE TRUTH IS OFTEN SPOKEN IN IGNORANCE.—"Ma, dear, what does the word 'matinée' mean?"

"—Gracious, child! What ignorance! 'Matinée' is a French word, meaning an amateur performance."

A VERY LOSE DRINK.—Gilded Youth: D'you think there's time for a drink, meirl?—Programme Girl: Pleadly sir, there's an interval of eighteen years before the next scene takes place.

THE ALTERNATIVE.—Topsy: Yes, mum. I was bit by a dog last June—Old Lady: Poor man! And did you go to Paris?—Topsy: Bless yer kind heart, no! I went on the parish.

TRULY LITERAL.—"I don't wish for an elaborately detailed profit and loss account," said the store manager to his accountant. "What I want now is just the profit of the last half year in round numbers." The clerk brought it, thus: 0 0 0!

BEST LEFT A-LOAN.—"I say, chappie, can't you give me a bill for the ten pounds I lent you?"

"A bill? Well, look here, old man, I will give you five bills of two pounds each. You are a friend, you know." "Five of two pounds each? What difference will that make?" "Why, when they fall due you will only lose two pounds at a time instead of ten."

(From Fun.)

HAD HIM THERE.—Conductor (on receipt of four farthings for penny fare): Don't take farthings for fares.—Old Parry: Then you'll just 'ave to give me a penny for four farthings, for I ain't got no more money.

SERVING THE OCCASION.—Sporeneck: Why, old boy, fancy seeing you. Rumour had it that you knocked off hunting, by particular desire, on the occasion of your marriage!—Bullfinch: So I did, old man; so I did. But this ain't the occasion of my marriage, is it?

AWAYS IN THE CLOUDS.—Mrs. Honeydove: So sorry to hear your acquaintance with Jack Jollyboy is broken off. Mabel: Mabel: Bad job, dear, but I had to make my choice and give up the boy or the 'bacco, so—'Ommezet in furro.' Have a cigarette, dear?—Mrs. Honeydove: No, you horrid girl! I've promised Edwin never to take tobacco in his lifetime or mine.—Ethel: But surely, Angelina, he can't wish you, in case you are the survivor, to forego your widow's weeds.

Lydia Hewlett, of Homington, Wiltshire, has been bewitched, and is accompanied all over the place by mysterious knockings, which are vouched for as authentic by canons, ministers, and police inspectors. The only conclusion we can arrive at is that they have all been knocked silly.

(From Funny Folks.)

NOT A WICKET BY NOW.—Rector: I'm very glad to see you at Sunday school again, Wilkins!

—Wilkins: Yes, sir, I'm religious again now. Mother's burst my cricket bat!

Just saw.—At Sandwich the waves have made two great breaches in the seawall. Of course, this pair of breaches will have to be repaired; but how? The Needles are too far off to be made use of for the purpose.

UPSETTING THEIR CALCULATIONS.—As an engineering feat the Forth Bridge has no parallel. Yet, at the same time, there is one difficulty with it which none of the engineers have yet been able to overcome. The difficulty is that although by common consent it is the first wonder of the world, it is also the Forth.

SCHOOL BOARD.—The School Board contracts have been entered into at rates which will considerably add to the taxation. Whatever the big contractors employed contract for, one thing is very certain—they won't contract the prices.

BLOW ROW BLOW.—The conductors of the Cardiff trams are very logical. They have struck, and refuse to accept the bell punch unless they have an advance of wages. Of course, when a man has a punch offered him, it is only natural he should "strike" in return.

(From Ally Sloper.)

Mother: You must not dance with that man again, Agnes; your father has just told me that he has met him frequently in places of a very shady description.—Daughter: Indeed? Then, may I ask what papa was doing there?—Mother: Well—er—er—see, my dear, your father being a county councillor has many peculiar duties to perform and occasionally strange places to visit.—Daughter (smiling): H'm! He seems to enjoy his peculiar duty, anyhow!

Not long ago a certain regiment of Volunteers were drilling on a hundred miles from the Crystal Palace, and when they were formed two deep for inspection the two ranks were faced outwards so as to be back to back. "What on earth is your object in that?" inquired a puzzled spectator of the senior officer present. "I never saw it done before." "Why, the fact is, our fellows are rather—er—er—skittish," was the reply, "and if they were formed in the ordinary way, the rear rank would pick all the front rank men's pockets, which might lead to unpleasantness afterwards."

"Here," shouted an irritable passenger at a terminus, "do you drive this 'bus?" "No, sir," replied the coachman. "What do you mean?" "You've just got off the box, you've got the whip in your hand, and—"

"Beginn' your parading, sir," said the coachman, "I drives the 'buses." "Tootsie," said Mrs. S., "you are a good girl—a well regulated girl; but I can tell you this, as straight as you can make 'em—don't you ever try to work up an interesting blush by painting of yourself sudden like, it only shows the bloom of Ninon off all the more—like the flour on a mornin' breakfast French roll—blush inwardly my dear, blush inwardly!"

"Oh, I'm so glad I met you, doctor!" gushed a nervous patient. "Will you be kind enough to tell me what to take for diphtheria?" "I have you got diphtheria?" asked the medical man. "No; but I thought—" "Well, then, you'd better take diphtheria first, and then—I'll call and see you."

Ally says that he's very glad to hear that the latest novelty in dress is the "Patent Alarm Palpitator." Any sweet girl wearing this, on being too rudely clasped to the heart of her adored in the scrooping process will cause the A.P. to give utterance to a hideous whistle. This is rather rough, though, on good girls paying their adieux to their ownists in the solitary seclusion of the back parlour.

THE PRISONS' REPORT FOR 1888.

The commissioners of prisons, in their report to the House of Commons, state that the number of prisoners received during the past year in local prisons under sentence of the ordinary courts was 153,933, besides 1,222 soldiers and sailors sentenced by courts-martial. There were also 8,664 persons imprisoned as debtors or on civil process, making a total of 163,819.

Corresponding numbers for the preceding year are respectively: convicted by the ordinary courts, 147,773; by courts-martial, 1,171; debtors and civil process, 7,917—total, 156,861. The population of the prisons on the 31st March, 1888, was 14,533, having been 14,396 at the end of the previous year. The average daily population in 1888-89 was 15,255, viz., 12,673 males and 2,582 females. In the previous year it was 15,119, viz., 12,567 males and 2,552 females. If the increase due to retaining convicts under sentence of penal servitude in local prisons be deducted, the average daily population would be 13,758 in 1888-89, and 14,336 in the previous year. The average population of local or short sentence prisons was, therefore, 225 higher in 1888-89 than in the previous year. The increase is, no doubt, due to certain military prisoners who hitherto have gone to military prisons being sent to serve their sentences in ordinary prisons, but after allowing for this a slight increase remains, still below that of the year before last (1886-87). The following figures show the remarkable decrease in the prison population since 1877—Half-year ended March 31st, 1878, 20,334; year ended 31st March, 1879, 15,318; 1880, 19,355; 1881, 18,247; 1882, 17,798; 1883, 17,573; 1884, 17,194; 1885, 16,619; 1886, 15,775; 1887, 14,322; 1888, 14,533; 1889, 14,758. The commissioners state that out of 158,115 male prisoners who were in prison during the year no less than 139,249 have not been punished at all, and out of 47,159 females 44,738 have not been punished. The attention which has been drawn to the necessity for proper accommodation in court-houses for prisoners awaiting trial at assizes and quarter sessions has resulted in considerable improvements being made in most of the places where it was defective. This has been effected in many cases by limiting the number brought up from prison at one time so as not to exceed the available accommodation in the court-houses, and in others by increasing and improving the accommodation. There are, however, still some important places in which the evil brought to light has not yet been effectively remedied, if at all. The places in which any considerable defects now exist or are not in a fair way to be remedied are comparatively few in number.

A STRANGE TRUE STORY.

A remarkable romance is associated with intelligence which has just reached this country regarding the disappearance of Mr. Edmund Taylor, a business member of the well-known firm of accountants, Starkey and Taylor, of Sydney, Australia. The firm recently became insolvent, and its total liabilities are said to amount to over half a million of money. Taylor absconded to Colombo, and was arrested by one of the Sydney detectives. Mr. Starkey, the senior partner, was, a few years ago, an accountant in Birmingham in a large way of business. One day, while he was staying at a watering-place in North Wales, the canoe in which he had gone out boating was found bottom upwards, and his hat was afterwards washed ashore. He was given up for dead, his wife took out letters of administration, and to the great surprise of the family, he afterwards turned up in Australia, where he had been understood to be making his fortune as an accountant. It is singular that Mr. Starkey left Birmingham without owing a penny, and he always bore a high character for integrity. The last tidings from Mr. Starkey were that he had become a millionaire, and that his firm was one of the most prosperous in Australia.

In an interview with Professor Vambéry, the Sultan declared very positively that Turkey would not join the Triple Alliance, but would remain neutral, and as far as possible keep on good terms with all the European Powers.

How doth a little "Petrolite" improve the washing house? It rather drains all the dirt from all who try its power.

How skillfully it does its work, so that it leaves the clothes as clean as when it was first washed.

It is a most useful and economical cleaner, saving rubbing and scrubbing. Sold everywhere in tin, Patent or Four Pans in One, &c.—Works, Australia, &c., N.W. Price, 1/6.

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From The World.)

It is understood at Windsor Castle that the Queen will not arrive there from Balmoral before Saturday, November 10th, or later than Saturday, the 23rd. Her Majesty has no intention of visiting Edinburgh this year, but will return direct from Balmoral to Windsor.

The Prince and Princess of Wales are not now expected to arrive at Sandringham until towards the end of next month, and it is probable that the first house party at the hall will assemble on Monday, December 2nd. The prince goes from Athens to Egypt next week, and the Osborne will afterwards convey him to Naples. The Princess will stay at Athens for a few days after the departure of the prince, and, on leaving, they are to be conveyed by the Osborne to Brindisi, whence they will proceed to Genua on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland.

A great deal of nonsense is talked every week by rabid Radicals, who are either very ignorant or grossly dishonest, about the expenses of monarchy. The fact that the cost to the American people of the periodical contests for the presidency exceeds \$20,000,000 sterling is rather startling, when one remembers the rubbish of the chequer and written last July of New York rejoices in a band of 4,572 elected officers, whose salaries and expenses always exceed \$45,000; and every other year, when the State officers are chosen, they draw \$60,000. The presidential election every four years costs this city \$40,000 extra, and there are enormous indirect payments, which bring up the whole to \$140,000 a year. The cost of electing the State governor is something alarming, and the mere nomination of President Cleveland cost New York \$20,000. Six hundred and fifty delegates were despatched from the city to Chicago, who were paid \$100,000 for board, \$3,000 for travelling expenses, and \$2,000 for wine and spirits. I am not surprised that General Grant once asked, "What honest American citizen is there who would not give his ears for a Government half as cheap as that of England?"

The first result of the re-marriage of Count and Countess Hatzfeldt has been the formal announcement of the betrothal of their eldest daughter, the Countess Helmi, to Prince Max of Uffhausen, an officer in the Prussian Guards. The Duke of Uffhausen is one of the richest German princes, owns vast estates in Saxony and Wurtemberg. The duchess is the youngest sister of the Prince of Fürstenberg, the lord of the Schwarzenwald, and his sister is married to Prince Victor Hohenlohe-Schillingens, Duke of Ratibor.

Duff House, where the Duke and Duchess of Fife have gone for a few weeks, is a very large square building in the French castellated style, and is a fine pile. It was begun by the duke's grandfather, who never finished it, and it was completed by the late Lady Fife a short time before her death. She was a woman of great taste and capacity for spending, and she made it very beautiful, the interior decorations and furniture being magnificent. There is a large and valuable collection of pictures, and some fine Piette and Jacobite relics. The house is low, and has no view; but there are peeps of the sea and surrounding country and mountains from parts of the "policies," and the walks and drives along the banks of the Deveron, which flows through the grounds, are very numerous and beautiful. The duke and duchess will remain some weeks at Duff House for the shooting, which is very good.

(From Truth.)

Some of the papers state that the German Emperor has presented his sister, Princess Sophia, with a diadem and necklace of magnificent turquoise and diamonds, which presents are described as "bequests" from whom they passed to Queen Charlotte (who, from whom they passed to Queen Anne), and having been "given" (by whom?) to the Queen on her marriage, she presented them in 1858, to the Empress Frederick as a wedding gift; and now the Emperor gives them to Princess Sophia, who is described as "the eldest daughter of the Empress Frederick," whereas she is her third daughter. This narrative must be well bartered with fiction, for if these jewels were "bequests" they would be Crown property, and the Queen could not more have presented them to her daughter than she could have given her Windsor Castle. More over, it would be interesting to know how the jewels, according to this story, were the private property of the Empress Frederick, come to be at the disposal of the Emperor William?

Queen Charlotte's own jewels were worth £200,000, and, except a few which were Crown property, they were all seized by George IV., who sold some of them, while others he gave away, many of the most valuable being presented to Lady Conyngham. The most valuable of the Royal Crown jewels belonged to Hanover, and they were presented by the Duke of Cumberland, the pearls alone (which were surrendered to King George about 1857, after twenty years of controversy, to the great chagrin of the Queen and Prince Albert) being valued at upwards of £150,000.

The new crown which has been manufactured for the German Emperor by the court jeweller weighs three pounds, and is adorned with a hundred fine diamonds. That provided for the Empress is ornamented with eleven pearls and nearly fifteen hundred diamonds.

The Emperor of Russia is in a state of panic which no man could imagine or describe. It was reported that he would be the guest of the German Emperor at the Moscow Palace, Potsdam, and when all kinds of expostulations, representations, and been made there, he decided that he would be safer in Berlin, and a large sum was expended in arranging for his reception at the Schloss. Finally, only one day before the Emperor arrived, Count Schouvaloff received a telegram from Copenhagen to intimate that his Majesty would alight at the Russian Embassy, and the message was quickly followed by the arrival of the Imperial workmen, seven in number, who now go in advance of the Emperor of respect for his two masters, two locksmiths, and a foreman. They must carefully examine the chimneys, looms, doors, walls, and furniture of the house which the Emperor is to occupy, and his own apartments are subjected to a most rigorous search. The chimneys are objects of special attention, and every due which leads to a room which the Emperor is likely to enter is thoroughly barred both up and bottom; and, as if these precautions were not sufficient, police agents from St. Petersburg patrol the roof both night and day.

A BEGGAR'S JOURNAL.

John Morrison, 32, was charged at Lambeth Police Court with begging from house to house.—Police-constable 157 P stated that he watched the prisoner for some time on the 18th inst., and saw the accused go from door to door and ask for assistance. The witness ultimately took the prisoner into custody and found that he had money upon him. The prisoner refused to give any account of himself. When he was searched a note-book was found in his possession, and on the first page were written the words, "A token of respect from a friend—East Farleigh."—Mr. Birton examined the carrier in the book, and said that apparently the prisoner kept an account of what he made on his way to London. He also put down so much for expenses, and where he had "a bad day" or a more successful one. One item was to the effect that he had a "holiday for a few days by going into the infirmary." The next item showed that the prisoner had done pretty well in Newington Butts and Lambeth Walk.—The accused was remanded.

THE GARDEN.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR "THE PEOPLE.")

Plants for Cold Greenhouse.

"K. K." says:—"Please inform me what plants will grow in a cold greenhouse besides climbers and Dutch bulbs. Can I have plants with variegated or coloured leaves? Yes, certainly; there are numbers of pretty variegated foliage plants suitable for a cold greenhouse. The following gives a nice selection all easily grown:—

Variegated Greenhouse Plants.

Arundo donax variegata, Farfugium grande coronella, Glauca variegata, Abutilon Thompsonii, Yucca aloefolia variegata, variegated American aloes (several species), Antherium variegatum, Hydrangea japonica variegata, Aralia Sieboldii, Argemone variegata, Aspidistra lurida variegata, Eulalia japonica variegata, variegated myrtle, Euryalafolia variegata, Lavatera arborea variegata, this is easily raised from seeds in spring; the leaves are green at first, but speedily become beautifully marked with cream and white, Sibthorpia Europaea variegata (this is a variegated form of the pretty trailing rose sibthorpia, pretty for baskets), Sedum carnosum variegatum is also pretty for draping baskets. Then there are palms and dracenas; the Australian species especially will thrive in a cold house, and though they are not variegated, their noble aspect renders their presence peculiarly desirable. Camellias and azaleas will succeed very well in a low temperature, and the very large family of Cape ericas (heaths) only require to have the frost kept out, but heaths, camellias, and azaleas belong to what is called the hardwood section of greenhouse plants, and are rather more difficult to manage, especially when mixed with softwooded stuff. To do hardwood plants justice, they should be kept to themselves. Then, again, why does not "K. K." grow chrysanthemums? They are just the plants to make the cold greenhouse gay in autumn and early winter, and they are not difficult or expensive to grow. And this reminds me that, now the buds are swelling, to obtain fine blossoms some stimulant should be given.

Among Artificial Fertilisers

I have found nothing better than ichthemia guano for giving side to the flowers and maintaining the foliage in health, but as soon as the flowers are well open the stimulants are to be discontinued.

Removing Fruit Trees.

"Amateur gardener" wishes to know when is the best time to remove fruit trees and bushes; also the best time for pruning them, and what vegetables will grow best in heavy soil. The fruit trees and bushes may be transplanted as soon as the leaves fall. The best time is during November. That is also the best time to prune hardy fruit trees, peaches and apricots excepted, which are better left till February or even March, if the weather should be severe in February. The most profitable crops to plant in heavy land are beans, peas, celery, cabbages, onions, parsnips, cauliflowers, lettuce, and green crops generally. Potatoes do not pay on heavy land, being more liable to rot than on lighter soil. Heavy land should be thrown up roughly in winter to let the frost act upon it.

Propagating Gooseberries and Currants.

Three constant readers, having freehold plots of land in the country, ask if "Adam" will insert a few lines in his column of the People stating the best time to take cuttings of gooseberry and currant bushes; also the best kind of slips to take and the best soil to strike them, and if in boxes, to be removed to the grounds in the spring or summer. "Adam" is always glad to help his readers in every possible way. Cuttings of gooseberries and currants should be taken as soon as the leaves fall in autumn. Select the straight young shoots from near the centre of the bushes, not the suckers which sometimes spring from the base. Let them be at least a foot long, so as to secure a leg or stem long enough to lift the fruit away from the soil to prevent them coming in contact with the earth, or getting splashed with earthy particles during heavy rain in summer. Make a clean cut at the bottom, close to a point, and remove all the buds except the three upper ones. These latter will form the head of the future tree. There is no necessity to plant them in boxes, as they will do as well, if not better, in the open ground, burying about four inches firmly in the ground, cutting in them in. Any good garden soil will do to plant them in. Plant in rows a foot apart, and set the cuttings six inches apart in the rows. If the soil between the rows is mulched with old manure or cocoa fibre there will be no failures. Those who want to should lose no time in getting out their wallflowers, daisies, sweetwilliams, pansies, bulbs, and other suitable subjects. The tints of the spring flowers are less glaring than the brighter tints of summer. The spring flowering shrubs also should be thought of. Most of the little gardenias I pass in my rambles would be improved by the addition of a tree or two or a few shrubs to break up the straight line of wall or fence.

If this house was only my own," said a gentleman to me the other day, "I should then have more heart in gardening. No doubt being obliged to live in a hired house is a great drawback to one's gardening efforts, but everything in the way of trees, shrubs, and flowers are comparatively cheap now, and the parcel post comes in to aid in their distribution. Some day the law will be altered so some common sense principle, so that a man who plants a rose bush or an apple tree will not be making a present of it to his landlord, whether he wishes to do so or not. Planting a garden with flowers and fruit is no light business if it is done well, and in the interest of gardening I contend that what a person plants he should have the power to remove at the expiration of his tenancy if he thinks well to do so.

P.S.—I crave the indulgence of several readers whose letters I am obliged to hold over till next week.

THEFT IN CAMDEN TOWN.

Edward Wallis, 24, stoker, was indicted for stealing a purse, eleven postage stamps, and 16s. 1d., the money of Edith Dennison, from her person.—The prisoner stopped the prosecutrix in Park Street, Camden Town, on the morning of the 11th of October, and took the money and property in question from her.—He now pleaded guilty, and the learned chairman was in the act of passing sentence when he was informed that the prisoner had been convicted of burglary, and had undergone a sentence of five years' penal servitude for arson.—Mr. Underhill expressed his astonishment that the indictment did not include a count charging the prisoner with having been previously convicted of felony. He thought the police had been guilty of gross neglect, and therefore he should not allow their expenses.—The prisoner would be sentenced to nine months' hard labour.

CHEAP PLANTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

WALLFLOWERS, in three colours: Sweet Williams, double and single; Canterbury Bells, Seedling Pansies; Polyanthus, double and single; all superior strains, 6d. per dozen. Violets, single and double, 6d. per dozen. All strong plants. Orders of 12 and upwards free.

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GARDEN WORK.

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ONE OF THE MANY.

She'd been reading of the efforts made To close the halls of public song, "I shall lose the pittance that I am paid," Thought she, as she walked along.

For she was dust in the world's great whirl, Dust that is trampled on where'er it falls, One of the many—a ballet girl, And a singer at music halls.

"I shall lose the pittance that I am paid," She sighed, "The world is hard to please, And all because one half is made Of humbugs and Pharisees."

"For keeping true to what mother said One half of the world despises me, And says, with a scornful toss of the head, 'You'll never get on, you'll see.'"

"And the other half looks on my trade With a scornful pity and outraged pride, The only sin that can degrade, Yet virtue turns aside."

"True, there's some of us who their woman's name Down sink in abyss for gold will hurl, But womanly honour and woman's shame Can live in a ballet girl."

"I remember, too, how mother would Tell me of One who had sorrow seen, How they scornfully said that nothing good Could come from a Nazarene."

"To the world my life is darkly hue'd, Only to him its page is clear; Oh, charity covers a multitude Of sinful sorrows here!"

And so she mused, until she came To where a woman, one of the lost, Half faint, paying in her shame The price that sin had cost.

She had lain there since the early morn, Once a lady passed from prayer and praise, But the head so heavy with virtue's scorn She could never stoop to raise.

But had hurried on with an angry frown, And a muttered "That such sights should be! What can the police be thinking about To let the creature be?"

But the ballet girl bent over her, Not with the pity that gold can buy; Took of her shawl to cover her, And let the world go by.

And when the woman opened her eyes And murmured something of flowers in spring, The other saw the country skies, And heard the wild birds sing.

The blackened stretch of London slum, Seemed the country's bridal dress of May, And the parish girl

"IN THE MIDDLE ORDER OF MANKIND ARE GENERALLY TO BE FOUND ALL THE ARTS, WISDOM, AND VIRTUE OF SOCIETY. THIS ORDER ALONE IS KNOWN TO BE THE TRUE PRESERVER OF FREEDOM, AND MAY BE CALLED 'THE PEOPLE.'"—Vicar of Wakefield, chap. 19.

In order to properly estimate the polling at Brighton and its bearings on the political situation, a glance backward at the history of the borough is requisite. Up to 1874, it was almost uninterruptedly strongly Liberal. Occasionally a Conservative contrived to win one of the seats, but in these instances, personal considerations weighed down political. The great Conservative wave of 1874 carried both seats, but they were lost again in 1880 by narrow majorities. At that date the two parties may be considered to have been very equally divided, but in 1885 Conservatism gained

THE BRIGHTON CONTEST.

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platform, hurried in the face of Mr. Gladstone the challenge to explain something of the scheme for which he demands the obedience of people and Parliament, and which is, as he repeats, the foremost thing in politics—the one supreme problem which must be solved before any further steps can be taken to legislate for the benefit of the English people. In spite of all the Unionist challenges—in spite, even, of the mutterings of dissatisfaction, breaking at the last into open remonstrance, on the part of his own supporters—Mr. Gladstone remained obstinately silent. Recently, however, the impression had been gaining ground in both the political camps that the time had come when the Separatist leader could not, in common prudence, to say nothing of common decency, keep silence any longer. True, the same belief had been entertained, and duly disappointed, on many previous occasions. But this time there seemed to be signs and tokens, notably the recent visits of Sir William Harcourt and other prominent Gladstonian politicians to Hawarden, that a new departure was at hand. Our opponents, in particular, unquestionably felt that a straightforward and statesmanlike declaration of his policy would be of immense advantage to the cause in the important conflict at Brighton.

Well, Mr. Gladstone has spoken, the looked-for occasion has come and gone, and the net result of the "important speech," the "magnificent reception," and all the rest of it, is just simply—nothing. Disappointment, deep and dire, has fallen upon those supporters of Mr. Gladstone who, like Mr. Atherley Jones, have at last come to see that the vague, nebulous aspiration—we can call it nothing more positive—of Home Rule is not sufficient political sustenance for the practical mind of JOHN BULL. Once more the faithful flock have been "choused"—the term is not elegant, but it is appropriate—by their wily shepherd, and are left bleating helplessly in an Irish bog of doubt and disappointment. We, on the other side, are both disappointed and triumphant. On the one hand, the challenges of our leaders have been once more disregarded, and we are disappointed of our legitimate expectation of ascertaining the real nature of that magnificent scheme which is to sweep us from power before it unites the English and Irish peoples in the bonds of everlasting love. On the other hand, we have received striking confirmation of the view, which has been consistently presented to the readers of the People, that Mr. Gladstone will not speak because he has got nothing to say—that, in a word, Mr. Gladstone knows no more than Mr. Chamberlain or Mr. Atherley Jones what Home Rule really means, or would mean if ever Mr. Gladstone returned to power. On every other topic of public interest Mr. Gladstone had plenty to say. Mindful of the old success of the "Bulgarian atrocities" cry, he strove hard to fan the flame of ignorant indignation against the Turks of to-day. The cry served him a good turn once; it may, he doubtless thinks, do something for him now. Domestic legislation he has himself described as the fruit enclosed in a high-walled garden, not to be touched until the obstacle of Home Rule has ceased to stop the way. But domestic questions contributed to the discomfiture of the Unionists at recent bye-elections; so they are duly discussed with a liberal—we will not say a Liberal—allowance of misrepresentation. Much stale rhodomontade we also have on the well-worn theme of "coercion." But of the grand bill which is to precede all domestic legislation, and to heal all the wounds of Mr. Balfour's administration in Ireland, we have not a single solitary word. Not a corner of the veil is raised; not a glimmer of light escapes; the oracle is dumb; and "disappointment," as it has so often been before, is the only possible verdict on Mr. Gladstone's latest deliverance.

The London County Council committed itself to a terrible mistake at its last meeting. The Asylums Committee having recommended the acceptance of the tender of a Liverpool firm for the work of erecting the superstructure of the asylum at Claybury, the council decided, by a large majority, to accept that tender. Now, the work in question involves the enormous outlay of more than £300,000. In fact, the Liverpool firm which has got the job will be paid £337,945 for it. We want, therefore, to know by what moral right the council have deprived the working men of London of a large proportion of that sum by letting the work go out of London. As a matter of fact, a London firm offered to do it for only £500 more. Why, then, is it to be let go to Liverpool? As a member of the council said, it is a question of principle, and we ought to "keep the work in London, and help to feed the men who pay the rates out of which this work is to be done." In spite of the vigorous protests of the minority, which included John Burns and Captain James, this enormous contract for London work is to be sent out of London to Liverpool for the sake of a paltry £500, which would be more than saved in poor rates if the wages were paid to London workmen. The members of the council who voted for this scandalous proceeding had better look out for themselves at the next election.

Eighteen months are allowed by the Board of Trade to the railway companies for the universal adoption of the salutary reforms which the new Act empowers the Board to enforce. These include the block system, interlocking points and signals, and continuous brakes. For the printing of fares on tickets a period of nine months' grace is permitted. No one wishes to see the companies unduly harassed. But no one, either, can deny that the board is giving them ample time—perhaps more time than is necessary—for the adoption

of such needful measures as the first three named. With regard to continuous brakes, large exceptions to the general rule are permitted, the wisdom of which permission is at least open to question. Certain much required regulations are, moreover, conspicuous by their absence. These should deal with the nuisance of overcrowding in carriages and the danger of level crossings. The latter are utterly unjustifiable in the neighbourhood of London and other large towns, round which populous suburbs have sprung up since the lines and their crossings were first constructed. In country districts they are, no doubt, permissible, but in the vicinity of cities they are merely death traps which annually claim their tale of victims. Their compulsory abolition, except in rural districts, is urgently demanded in the interests of public safety.

LONDON COUNTY SESSIONS.

IN THE NAME OF THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.—William Goulden, 41, pleaded guilty to stealing several watches and other articles, value £43 14s. 6d., the property of Mr. Daniel Henry O'Hara, and obtaining goods by means of false pretences. The prisoner went to the prosecutor and represented that he was sent by the Duke of Cambridge. The watches were sold in Long Acre, and the prisoner went away to Leeds, where he was arrested. He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

NOR GUILTY.—Emile Walter, 32, was indicted for stealing a ring, value £6 10s., the goods of Annie Melton. Mr. T. Cole prosecuted; Mr. Purcell defended. The prosecutrix is a barmaid at the Fish and Bell, Soho, and knew the prisoner as a frequenter of the house. On September 19th she had a ring in her purse, and the prisoner asked to look at one of the rings. She handed him the ring in question, and he put it on his finger, saying he would give it to her the next morning. He did not come in the morning, but called in the evening, when he still had the ring on his finger. On the 25th he gave the ring, it was alleged, to a man named Cleary to pawn, and he pledged it for £1, and gave the prisoner the money. On September 28th the prisoner was apprehended by Detective-sergeant James, when he said the prosecutrix had given him the ring. In cross-examination by Mr. Purcell, the prosecutrix admitted that on one occasion she went to the Empire with the prisoner and Cleary. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

AN EXPENSIVE PAUPER.—Alfred Doe, 40, was brought up from the Thames Police Court to be dealt with as a pauper and vagrant for deserting his wife and children. The prisoner had been several times charged by the guardians of Mile End with deserting his wife, and when apprehended on the present charge was found to be in full work as a bricklayer. The prisoner, after leaving London, surrendered at various places in the country, thereby causing the parish authorities great expense in sending him back to London. On the three last occasions it had cost the parish £10 4s. for his and the officer's travelling expenses, and a total sum of £60, including the cost of maintenance of his family. He was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF A BURGLARY.—John McCarthy, 45, labourer, was indicted for stealing seven pairs of boots, value £15s., the goods of Mr. Robert Haskett, wholesale bootmaker, of Acorn-street, Limehouse. Mr. Le Breton prosecuted. Between Saturday evening, September 23rd, and the following Monday the prosecutor's premises were broken into and the property mentioned stolen. The prisoner attempted to pawn a pair of the stolen boots, but the pawnbroker noticing that they bore the same mark as those circulated by the police as the proceeds of a burglary, asked him where he lived. As the prisoner gave an address at which he knew he could not live he was given into custody. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and as nothing was known against him previous to the learned chairman's plea he would treat it as the prisoner's first offence, and sentenced him to four months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

RAILWAY THIEVES.—John Stockley, 35, agent, pleaded guilty to stealing a bag and other articles, value £6 10s., the goods of Rosa Brown. Mr. Grain, who prosecuted on behalf of the London and North-Western Railway Company, said the robbery took place at Euston Station on the afternoon of the 10th of October. Prisoner was seen loitering in the Grand Hall on the morning of that day, and in the afternoon an officer in plain clothes saw him carrying a bag in his hand, and asked him to take out the bag in question, which had been left there for a few minutes by the prosecutrix's maid. He ran towards the east platform, and on being stopped there said the bag was his own. Detective-sergeant Collins said the prisoner had some time ago been charged with obtaining a Gladstone bag (which he pawned in the Strand for £10) from Messrs. Southgate and Co., but the charge was dismissed by the magistrate at Marlborough-street on the ground that the offence was committed outside his jurisdiction. He was sentenced, 32 months' hard labour. The prisoner, a 30-year-old labourer, was indicted for stealing 300 cigars, four boxes of whisky, and four boxes containing 400 cigars, the property of the Great Northern Railway Company, his masters. He pleaded guilty. Mr. Grain said the prisoner was a checker employed at the Great Northern Station at King's Cross, and in consequence of frequent complaints being made of goods being missed and packages opened, a watch was set upon him, and the articles in question were traced to his possession. A search was made of his lodgings, in which there were traces found of other property which had been stolen from the company. He was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

WAREHOUSE BREAKING.—James George Lympny, 18, labourer, pleaded not guilty, and Walter Restell, 18, labourer, pleaded guilty to breaking and entering the warehouse of Daniel Hatherill, and stealing therein two sacks of walnuts, value £36s. 6d. Mr. Metcalfe prosecuted; Mr. Turrell defended. On the afternoon of the robbery a son of the prosecutor was in the stables attached to his father's warehouse in Hind-street, Clerkenwell, when the two prisoners leaned over the wall, Restell remarking that he knew where there were two bags full of walnuts, and how to have them. When they were young Hatherill asked him if he had a dog there, and he replied, "Yes." The prisoners then left. Restell being heard to say that he could get into the warehouse wonderfully quick if he liked. At half-past nine the same evening a young woman employed in a shop opposite the prosecutor's warehouse saw the prisoners go to the prosecutor's premises with a barrow, open the door, and take away the two sacks of walnuts. Lympny, when arrested, said he was not there at the time of the robbery. Mr. Turrell, for the defence, called a young woman, who said she was on the night of the 27th of September, when the warehouse was broken into. The jury found Lympny guilty. Both prisoners were sentenced to six months' hard labour.

BEST THING THEY COULD DO.—Herman Rohli, 39, a cabinet-maker, was indicted for maliciously wounding Wadyslaw Borutski, and also for assaulting one Wadyslaw Pisciorki. Mr. A. Hutton prosecuted; and Mr. Marshall Hall defended. The prosecutor Borutski and the defendant both carry on business as cabinet-makers in the Hampstead-road, and it appeared they had been in the habit of lending each other tools. On the 5th of October the prisoner called the prosecutor to return some of his tools, which the prosecutor told Borutski that he had not returned a screw-bit. An altercation ensued, and when Borutski was in the act of putting the accused on his back, the latter seized him by the collar, and stabbed him with a centrepiece. In the course of

the case it was stated that the defendant offered £5 as compensation, which had been refused. At the suggestion of the learned chairman, Mr. Hutton had a consultation with his client, after which he stated that no compensation would be accepted. A man named Pisciorki was called, and stated that he had been going on, and knew that the prosecutor had been injured, but could not say by whom. The foreman of the jury intimated that they had heard enough of the case, and returned a verdict of not guilty, adding, "At the same time, we should like all of them to leave the country."

ROBERT OF DIAMOND RINGS.—William Johnson, 23, was indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Mr. Henry Loveland Lawrence, a pawnbroker, of Upper-street, Highbury, and stealing therein twenty-five gold and diamond rings. The prisoner pleaded guilty. On the afternoon of the 17th inst. the prisoner, in the most barefaced manner, deliberately smashed a large plate-glass window, and seizing a tray of diamond and other rings ran off with it. When stopped the prisoner had the tray of rings in his possession, which he at once threw into the gutter. Twenty out of the twenty-five rings were recovered. As this appeared to be his first offence, the prisoner was only sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

THE FIRST SYSTEM.—Frederick Walter Whethead, 29, clerk, was indicted for obtaining by false pretences the several sums of 10s. 6d. and £4 10s. from Mr. Alfred William Croker, an auctioneer. Mr. Marshall Hall prosecuted. On July 25th the West London Piano and Organ Company, Limited, Harrow-road, let a piano on hire to a Mr. Willis for three years, on condition that he paid the company a certain sum every month. A deposit of 21s. was paid, but on August 8th the piano was pawned. The prisoner went to Mr. Croker, who is an auctioneer, carrying on business in the Fulham-road, to whom he showed a receipt for payment for the piano, and he advanced him 10s. 6d. and also £4 10s. on receiving it in his possession on the understanding that he was to dispose of it at his usual weekly auction sales. The next day, however, Mr. Croker was waited upon by Mr. Lister, manager of the Piano and Organ Company, who claimed the instrument. The prisoner was convicted, and the learned chairman postponed sentence until next session, in order to allow time for further inquiries being made concerning him.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT HACKNEY.—William Hawkes, 20; Leonard Stole, 19; and Charles Smith, 18, labourers, were indicted for stealing from the person of Mary Porter a purse containing the sum of £5 3s., the moneys of Frank Porter. Mr. Porter was walking in Mare-street, Hackney, at half-past two on the afternoon of the 28th ult., with her children, when a man, who was an ambulator, when she noticed Smith walking in front of her. Hawkes, who had been walking behind her, went forward and joined Smith, and then, on her putting her hand in her pocket, she missed her purse, containing a £5 note, a shilling, and some bronze. She followed Hawkes and Smith to the corner of Kenmuir-road and then the two men commenced running. A third man then joined them and ran also. Police-constable Simmons, 4063, stopped Hawkes, who said he was running a bloke who had the purse. He pointed to Stole and said, "It's all right, he ain't got it," and called upon him to come and see him. Simmons came up with Smith, and held him and Hawkes until assistance arrived, and the two men were taken to the police station. A wheelwright named Harrison caught Stole, who also said he was running after the thief. At the station Stole said he knew nothing about it, but on his being searched a £5 note was found rolled up and concealed in the band of his drawers. On Hawkes was found 2s. 8d., and on Smith 2s. 7d. Stole, on the note being found upon him, said the police must have put it there. All the prisoners were convicted. Stole was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, and Hawkes and Smith to six months' hard labour.

STABBING.—Charles Lancaster, 23, labourer, was indicted for maliciously wounding Sophia King. The prosecutrix had lived with the prisoner for four years, but separated from him on the 5th of this month. On the 10th the prisoner met her in the street and asked her some questions about their child. He then quarrelled with the prosecutrix, tore up her hat, and cut her jacket in several places. He also stabbed her on the arm with some sharp instrument. The prisoner said the wound on the arm was caused by an old nail, but the doctor said it was undoubtedly inflicted with some sharp instrument like a razor. The prisoner was found guilty, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour.

ASSAULT ON A POLICEMAN.—Daniel Daley, 33, labourer, was indicted for maliciously wounding John Flowers, a metropolitan police-constable, when in the execution of his duty as such constable. Mr. A. B. Kelly prosecuted; Mr. Thorne Cole defended. The prosecutor was on duty in Hornsey-road at eleven on the night of October 9th, when he was sent for to eject a man from the Queen's Arms public-house. He found a fight was taking place inside, and caught hold of a man named Biggs and the prisoner, and put them outside. He fell on the ground, and during the struggle let go the man. Daley had a hammer in his hand, and turning towards the prosecutor said, "You—I will murder you with this." Prosecutor said, "Don't use that, Harry;" at the same time the prisoner aimed a blow at him. He drew his truncheon and waved off the blow, which was aimed at his right eye. In doing so he hit Biggs on the head, who fell to the ground. The prisoner then made another blow at him, and they both struggled together. The prisoner then struck him a violent blow with the hammer behind his left ear. He fell exhausted from loss of blood, which was running down his face and neck. He then blew his whistle, and Constable Moss came to his assistance. Biggs and the prisoner were then making off down the Queensland-road, in the direction of their lodgings. Both Biggs and the prisoner were the worse for drink. Daley, when arrested, threw himself on the ground and behaved in a violent manner until the arrival of another officer. At the station he said he had no pocket, and so could not draw his hammer from one. Dr. Wight, divisional surgeon, said the prosecutor's wound reached nearly to the skull. He also had a scalp wound on the top of the head. Biggs had a mark on his forehead, which might have been caused by a constable's staff. Mr. Cole contended that the prosecutor had used more violence than was necessary in consequence of his being single-handed. Edward Sexton stated he saw the constable bring the two men out of the house, and without any provocation whatever draw his staff and strike Biggs on the head with it, and then strike the prisoner, who fell with the prosecutor on the kerb. It was certain no hammer was used. Leidor Biggs said on leaving the public-house he was struck by the prosecutor and knocked down. When he came to his senses, he got up from the ground and walked away. He was taken out of the public-house because he was "rowing" with a man. At the police court he was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and was bound over to keep the peace. He was quite sure no hammer was used. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour. Mr. Underhill awarded Flowers £2 2s. in addition to his expenses.

THE DANGERS OF THE STREETS.—George Biggs, a coachman, who surrendered to his bail, was indicted for causing actual bodily harm to Sarah Morgan by driving over her. The accused pleaded not guilty. Mr. Eardley Wilmot prosecuted; Mr. Arthur Gill defended. On the night of the 19th inst., the prisoner, driving a motor-car, was driving a victrola, and turning a fellow-servant, when he knocked the prosecutrix down, and the wheels of the vehicle went over her. This was witnessed by a gentleman named Cottle, an accountant, who called out to the prisoner to stop, but instead of doing so he whipped up his horse, and drove away at a gallop. Mr. Harry Oswin, of 2, Hind-street, Manchester-square, who also saw what took place,

finding he would not stop, clambered up behind the vehicle, and followed for nearly two miles before he succeeded in drawing the attention of the police and stopping the prisoner. Medical evidence proved that the prosecutrix had been severely hurt, although not permanently so. The person who was being driven by the prisoner (a cook in the same employment) gave evidence to the effect that the prisoner was never going faster than five miles an hour. The jury found the prisoner guilty, but recommended him to mercy. He was bound over to appear next session, in order to allow time for compensation to be made to the prosecutrix.

OLD BAILEY TRIALS.

COUNTERFEIT COIN CASES.—Henry Harrold, 23, pleaded guilty to having in his possession a mould and other implements for coining counterfeit money. Mr. Wilmot prosecuted. The prisoner was watched by the police and seen to attempt to pass a counterfeit coin. He was followed to his lodging, and a mould, together with all the necessary utensils for coining, were found on his premises. He was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. William Brown, 40, pleaded guilty to a similar offence, and was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. Thomas Edwards, 45, was convicted of having nineteen counterfeit half-crowns in his possession, with intent to utter them. Mr. Wilkinson prosecuted. On September 24th the prisoner was taken into custody for stealing meat from a butcher's shop in the New Cut. On his being searched, a number of counterfeit half-crowns were found in the lining of his coat. His answer to the charge was that some one must have put the base coins into his pocket at a lodging-house where he had slept. The prisoner was found guilty, and several previous convictions were proved against him, the punishment in one case being penal servitude. The prisoner was sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

FORGERY.—Alfred Newton Timpon, 43, clerk, pleaded guilty to forging a cheque for £500, with intent to defraud his partner. Mr. Poland, Q.C., and Mr. Grain prosecuted; and Mr. Besley defended. On the application of Mr. Besley the case was adjourned until the next session, when he would be able to lay extenuating circumstances before the court.

THE CASE OF ROBERTS.—John Weston pleaded guilty to breaking and entering the house of Ada Longman, and stealing a cash-box containing £13 13s. 6d., and a bill of exchange for £16 14s. 6d., and he also admitted a previous conviction. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

WATCH SNATCHING.—Jane Durnford, 39, pleaded guilty to stealing a watch pendant from the person of Robert Duff. She also admitted a previous conviction, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment. The prisoner: Thank you, sir, God bless you.

POST OFFICE ROBBERY.—Lancelot Francis Harrison Stanley, 21, a rural postman, pleaded guilty to stealing a post letter containing a postal order for 5s. that the prisoner was an educated man, and a good linguist, and was directed to enter the service of the Post Office as a letter-carrier at 16s. a week because he could not get any other employment. He had made an unfortunate marriage. His father was a clergyman abroad. Sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

NOT GUILTY.—Clara Vickers and Douglas Lettie Felgate surrendered to take their trial for obtaining goods from different West-end tradesmen by false pretences. The charges had been dismissed by the magistrate in the police court, and the prosecution was under the Vexatious Indictments Act. The case was recently reported. The accused were both dressed in black, and the allegation was that they had obtained goods by false pretences. The defence was that the accused carried on a legitimate trade, but that they had been unfortunate. Mr. Williams, who defended, at the close of the case for the prosecution submitted that no false pretence had been established against the prisoners. The Recorder concurred, and the jury therefore, under his direction, returned a verdict of not guilty.

SENTENCE.—Eugene Gompert, who pleaded guilty to having forged certain documents, was brought up for judgment, and was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour.

DROWNING A CHILD IN THE SERPENTINE.—Mary Griffiths, 23, domestic servant, was indicted for the wilful murder of her infant son, John, by drowning him in the Serpentine. Mr. Forrest Falconer and Mr. Thompson defended. It appeared that the prisoner gave birth to a son in the infirmary of the Marylebone Workhouse on March 28th last. She went to Margate with a benevolent lady, named Hyndman, in August, and remained till September 10th, and while there the child proved to be weak and subject to fits. He was once so ill in a fit that for a time it was thought he was dead. On September 10th the prisoner returned to London, and she tried to place the child in the Foundling Hospital. She did not succeed in this, and her son and son were received into a home in Great Portland-street, where they stayed for two days, though it was contrary to the rules to have a child in the institution. The prisoner was sent out to find lodgings, but after tramping about unsuccessfully all day she returned late at night to the home with the child, but was not allowed to re-enter. On Saturday, September 14th, she still had the infant, but in the evening she appeared to have gone to Hyde Park and left him in the Serpentine. When she reached the home she was asked by the landlady if she had a friend, but to Mrs. Hyndman she wrote that the child had died in her arms in a fit. The baby was found in the water near the boat-house next morning by a police-constable, and the post mortem examination of the body showed that death was due to drowning. The defence was that the child had a fit in the park, and the prisoner thinking that he was dead, dropped him into the Serpentine. The jury found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter, but recommended her to mercy on the ground of ill-health, and she was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

SCALDED TO DEATH.—Catherine Sheehan, 34, was indicted for the wilful murder of her husband, Henry Sheehan, by pouring boiling water over him while he lay in bed at his house in the New-road, Borough-road. Mr. Forrest Fulton and Mr. Byron prosecuted; and, at the request of the judge, Mr. Mathews undertook the defence of the prisoner. The evidence for the prosecution was that on August 31st the prisoner and her husband had a quarrel, the prisoner being jealous of her husband, and charged him with being unfaithful to her. The deceased was in bed, and he asked his wife to put on some boiling water to make lemonade. When the water was ready the woman took it over to the bed for her husband's use, and it was alleged that she then threw the boiling contents of the saucepan over him. She ran downstairs and out of the house, saying that she had "died" for her husband, and she did not return until September 6th. The deceased also came downstairs and complained of having been dreadfully scalded. He was removed to the hospital, where he died from the effects of his wife's conduct on September 14th. The prisoner told her neighbours that her husband threw the water over himself in a fit of jealousy, and she appeared to be particularly jealous of a woman named Penfold, whom she assaulted in the street, and threatened murder her and her husband (the deceased). Before the man died he made a statement to a police-sergeant, but the court held that as this statement had not been properly made before a magistrate it was not admissible as evidence against the prisoner. Before the magistrate the prisoner said that her husband tried to strike her and tipped the water over him. Mr. Mathews submitted that there was no case, and his lordship, in directing an acquittal, said that the evidence was too vague to convict the prisoner upon. The prisoner was

then discharged.—Mr. Forrest Fulton said he feared the practice of the police taking statements of dying persons in this unauthorised way was growing, and one day it might lead to a miscarriage of justice.—His lordship condemned the system complained of, and said that the only proper way to take such statements when a person was dying was when a magistrate was present and a charge had been preferred. He hoped the police would take notice of what he said.

A FATAL QUARREL.—James Fitzgerald, 34, a labourer at the Bromley Gasworks, was indicted for the manslaughter of William Tomlinson, a fellow-labourer, aged 60. Mr. Mathews prosecuted; and Mr. Grub defended. On Sunday afternoon, September 15th, some preaching was going on outside the houses of the prisoner and the deceased, who were next-door neighbours in Tucker-street, Canning Town, and a disturbance was caused by the prisoner's drunken wife. She flew at the deceased, and the prisoner came to his wife's assistance, and struck Tomlinson an unlawful blow, which it was alleged caused his death. The prisoner and the deceased rolled in the gutter, and his head came violently in contact with the road when they fell. The deceased was killed, and died two days after the alleged assault. In defence, Mr. Grub contended that the wounds which resulted in the death of the deceased were accidentally caused in the quarrel with the prisoner's wife, and not with the prisoner himself. The prisoner considered that his wife was being badly treated in the struggle, and he naturally went to her assistance, and the deceased again fell to the ground. The prisoner and the deceased were always very good friends, and he reminded the jury that the case had been investigated by a magistrate, who had dismissed the charge. The jury found the prisoner not guilty. His lordship (to the prisoner): Now go and keep your wife in order; she seems to want it very much.

SENTENCES ON "SCUTTLERS."

At Salford Quarter Sessions this week, eleven youths, whose ages ranged from 17 to 19 years, were charged with riotous conduct at Gorton. The prisoners and others went from Bradford and neighbouring townships to Gorton, and challenged the Gorton youths to a fight. Thereupon two bands of "scuttlers," as these youths are locally called, had a pitched battle, belts being used as stones thrown, and it was stated that the neighbourhood was often in a state of terror through these affairs. One witness stated that after dark the inhabitants were afraid to leave their houses, for stones were constantly being thrown. The eleven prisoners were only a portion of the youths engaged on Sunday evening. They were all found guilty. The chairman (Mr. Higgin, Q.C.), in passing sentence of nine months' hard labour on each, said these "scuttling" affairs must be put down.

ASSAULT ON AN ACTRESS.

Mr. Thomas Arthur Smith, residing at 311, Eversleigh-road, Battersea, appeared to answer a summons for assaulting Miss Florence Henderson, a member of the theatrical profession, residing at 261, Lavender Hill. Mr. Hanne, who represented the complainant, said she had been on friendly terms with the defendant, who was annoyed at her speaking to another gentleman, and exhibited his displeasure at such conduct by catching hold of her and slapping her face. The complainant, a stylish-dressed woman, said that early on the morning of the 13th inst. she was returning home from the theatre where she was engaged, and met the accused, who committed the assault complained of. She screamed, and a constable came to her assistance. Smith had offered her marriage, but she refused to accept him. In answer to Mr. George F. Bell, who defended, witness said she was playing at the Empire Theatre of Varieties. When she lost the last train she had to get home the best way she could. She held up her hand to ward off the blows, but did not strike him. Police-constable Price, 511 V, proved having seen the accused catch hold of the complainant and strike her in the face. Mr. Mead fined him 40s., and ordered him to pay 23s. costs. The money was at once paid.

SUICIDE OF A YOUNG LADY.

A shocking discovery was made the other day at a house in Meadow-street, Moss-side, Manchester, where two young ladies named Bates resided. The sisters carried on business together as tobacco conists. On Monday Florence, the elder one, went to Llandudno, leaving her sister in charge of the shop. On Tuesday afternoon she returned, and, finding the shop closed, went off to the house, which was also found to be locked up. She then borrowed a key and went upstairs, where a shocking spectacle presented itself. Her sister Louisa having evidently shot herself, she called to her. In the right hand was a fire-chambered revolver loaded with powder, and she had consumed a quantity of food, but after undressing had got possession of the revolver and shot herself in the mouth, inflicting injuries which no doubt caused instantaneous death. When her body was discovered the gas was still burning and the blind was drawn. Miss Florence Bates stated that her sister had had the revolver since Christmas. Her age was seventeen. At the inquest on Thursday it was stated that for six months the deceased had been hoarse, and last Sunday she confessed to her sister that she had been seduced during her sister's absence at Llandudno. A verdict of suicide during temporary insanity was returned.

CHASING AN ABSCONDING CLERK.

At the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday, before the Recorder, Oswald Rendell Miles, clerk, pleaded guilty to stealing £315 belonging to his employers. Mr. Grain prosecuted; and Mr. Lynn defended. The circumstances of the case were extraordinary. The prisoner was junior clerk to Messrs. Forrester, small, bookbrokers, of Chesham-court, and it was the practice of the firm to leave a number of signed cheques in charge of the chief clerk to be filled up for the amounts due. The prisoner in June contrived to obtain possession of one of these cheques, which he filled up for the sum of £315, and as the signature was genuine, he readily obtained the money, and shortly afterwards absconded. The fraud was not discovered until some time afterwards, and nearly a month elapsed before a warrant was obtained for the prisoner's apprehension. He was arrested at the City police, chased the runaway to New York, and several other American cities, and ultimately came up with him at a place called Fargo, 2,000 miles from New York. The prisoner at once recognised him, and said to a gentleman who had accompanied him for the purpose of identifying the criminal, "Halloa, Fred! what the devil brings you here?" He appeared very anxious to discover how the officer had found him out, and Sergeant Mitchell told him that he would inform him later on. When asked if he had got any money, he said that he had placed £250 in the hands of a gentleman to take the prisoner another 100 miles in order to get that amount. The prisoner appeared to have enjoyed himself very liberally before his arrest. He described himself as the Hon. Oswald Miles, gave champagne luncheons, and indulged in other extravagances, which accounted for the expenditure of the remainder of the money. Sergeant Mitchell at one time nearly lost the scent, but a black man who had been travelling in the same railway car as a person before, gave a description of a young man he saw alight on the platform, and the officer at once knew this to be his man. The only answer given to the charge was the youth of the prisoner, and the fact that he had been gambling on the Stock Exchange and lost his money. He was sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour.

In Pesh a girl who was engaged as a nursemaid in the family of a banker was sent out in the afternoon with a child of 15 months in a perambulator, and did not return. Next day she gave herself up to the police, and confessed that she had thrown the child, because it was troublesome, into the river, where it was drowned.

LAST WEEK'S LAW AND POLICE.

London Sessions.—Appeals.

THE TAILORS' STRIKE.—ALLEGED INTIMIDATION.—Mr. Marmont said in this case the respondent was Mr. Lushington, the magistrate, who, sitting at the Thames Police Court, had passed sentence of three months' imprisonment, with hard labour on the appellant, Asher Cohen, for that, he, with a view to compel one Emanuel Jacobs, to abstain from doing an act which he had a legal right to do, did unlawfully use violence to and intimidate Emanuel Jacobs on the 12th September. The proceedings were taken under the 35 and 39 Vic. cap. 86, sec. 7. The two counts for consideration were those of violence and the severity of the sentence. The assault took place during the recent strike of tailors at the East-end. Jacobs, who is an apprentice to the trade, was on his way to business at half-past six on the morning of the 12th September, and when near his place of business was stopped by Cohen, who asked him where he was going. He replied that he was going to work, and that he must go, as he was an apprentice. Cohen then told him he must not go, struck him in the face, knocked him down, and again struck him. A number of witnesses were called in support of the counts for the assault. Mr. Forester called several persons, who stated Jacobs first assaulted Cohen. He also contended there was no corroboration of the alleged threat by the appellant.—The court affirmed the conviction, with costs.

OUTRAGEOUS ASSAULT ON A CONDUCTOR.—Mr. Marmont said that Bibbys, the appellant, had been sentenced to twenty-one days' hard labour for an assault on Joseph Shillstone, a conductor in the employ of the General Omnibus Company. On the night of the 13th September the appellant entered an omnibus at the Elephant and Castle and paid 2d. for his fare to Shoreditch Church. He rode beyond this distance, and was asked for an extra penny. The appellant then made use of the most disgusting language and violently assaulted Shillstone.—Mr. Grain, on behalf of the appellant, said he could not dispute the facts, but called several witnesses to character.—The court affirmed the conviction, with costs. Mr. Underhill remarking the sentence appeared to him to be a very mild one.

Culldhall.

CRUELTY TO A HORSE.—Jeffrey Hall, 32, Chiswell, and Samuel Abraham, 30, Bridge-place, Southwark, were charged with cruelty to a horse, the former of working it while lame, and the latter with allowing it to be so worked. Hall was further charged with being drunk and driving to the common danger.—Police-constable Blunt, 849, stated that he saw Hall driving the animal, which was attached to a cab, in the Minories. Noticing that he was drunk, and that the horse was lame, the constable took him into custody. They were inside the cab, and said that he was the owner.—Mr. Sanster, veterinary surgeon, said that he had examined the horse, which was lame in its right hind leg. It was cruelly worked it. Hall denied being drunk, and said that what made the constable think he was not sober was because he had an impediment in his speech.—The constable said that he was unable to stand, and the inspector at the station thought him too drunk to be brought before the court on Friday.—Mr. Alderman Tyler fined them 20s. and 25s. costs. Hall, who had not brought his license with him, was remanded.

Marlborough-street.

CHARGE OF FORGERY.—William Sayer, 24, a joiner, of Oxford-street, Southwark, was brought up on a charge, before Mr. De Rutzen, charged with having forged and uttered a cheque for £200 with intent to defraud the Union Bank of London. Mr. Monks, solicitor, prosecuted for the Union Bank, and Mr. Arthur Newton, solicitor, defended. The evidence given previously was that Sayer gave himself up to Inspector Broad, who held a warrant for his arrest, on the morning of the 12th inst. and made a statement to the effect that while in the house of a doctor of the name of Mott he saw a cheque-book lying on the table, and, without giving a thought to the consequences, made out a cheque for £200, and signed it in the name of Dr. Mott, having copied it at the Argyl-place branch of the Union Bank. He went to Birmingham and thence to Southampton. By the advice of friends there he gave himself up to the police. He believed all the money had been returned, and he had made every reparation that lay in his power to Dr. Mott. He could assign no reason for committing the act, as he could obtain money whenever he wanted it.—Mr. Monks now applied to the magistrate to be allowed to withdraw the charge of forgery, and merely to prefer a charge of stealing a cheque for £200.—Mr. De Rutzen, however, said that he would have to deal with the case as it came before him. He did not consider that he would be justified in allowing the serious charge to be withdrawn.—Dr. Charles George Mott, staying at the Great Northern Hotel, said that the cheque produced had been taken from his book, which he left in his room at a lodging-house in Hereford-street, St. John's Wood, on September 25th. A few days later, while in Yorkshire, he had a notification from his bankers, which caused him to make inquiries.—Mr. Monks, Mr. De Rutzen, the brother of Dr. Mott, and that on the 1st inst. he received the sum of £200 from a relative of the prisoner. He went to the Union Bank and offered them the money, but they refused to accept it. A few days later he saw the secretary of the bank, and left a cheque for the amount with him, refusing to keep it any longer.—Mr. De Rutzen committed the prisoner for trial.

BETTER HAVE ADMITTED IT AT ONCE.—Annie Davis, a young woman wearing a red "tribald," from Broomfield, Fulham, was charged with being drunk and disorderly. She was brought up at a quarter past five on the morning of the 26th inst. The prisoner posted herself in front of St. James's Hall, and behaved in a disgraceful manner. Constable 600 Reserve ordered her out, but she was obliged to remove her by force.—Now she denied being drunk, and said that she should have "turned round and come off quietly." If the policeman had not pushed her as she was crossing the road.—The constable denied having given her a "kick."—Mr. De Rutzen asked her what she had to say about being drunk in that condition, because she did not leave home till half-past twelve o'clock.—Mr. De Rutzen: Do you wish me to understand that you were sober?—The prisoner: Yes, I was sober, perfectly sober.—Mr. De Rutzen: Then I will have the inspector sent for who took the charge at the station.—Miss Davis was returned to the bar, but she had only been there a few minutes when she received a knock and was taken to the dock. Then she pleaded guilty to being drunk, and Mr. De Rutzen, addressing her, said that her case was an illustration of how necessary it was that all the evidence should be stated before a person was sent away. Her denial was given simply to prejudice the police. She said that when she ought not to have said at last she had to admit the fact. He would not, however, punish her severely, but let her off with a fine of 3s.

Marylebone.

ALLEGED HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—Edward Wallis, 24, a stoker, was charged with stealing a purse containing about 1s. from the person of Mrs. Edith Denington, a widow lady, residing at 32, Regent's Park-road, N.W.—The prosecutrix said she was in Park-street, Camden Town on Friday, and while looking into a shop window she suddenly discovered that a man at her back had his arms round her waist and had seized hold of her purse, which was in the same hand as she was holding her umbrella with. She thought at first that it must be the ladies of a mania, and she struggled and screamed. Having witnessed

her purse from her grasp, the prisoner made off at full speed down the street, followed by some people who had seen what had occurred. The prisoner was stopped by two police pensioners, who handed him over to the custody of Constable Ryan, 303 S.R.—Assistant-gaoler Barrett informed the magistrate that the prisoner had already suffered twelve months' imprisonment and five years' penal servitude.—Mr. Cooke sent the prisoner for trial.

Clerkenwell.

INDULGENT THIEF.—Thomas Burke, 19, a labourer, of no home, was charged with stealing from the person of Lionel Ernest Garrett, a nickel silver watch, value 12s. 6d., at Whitecross-street.—Prosecutor, a warehouseman, said on September 20, while in a crowd in Whitecross-street he felt some one pulling his watch from his pocket. He turned round and saw the prisoner running off. Prosecutor gave chase, but after proceeding some little distance, Burke ran into an empty house. As prosecutor was about to enter the passage prisoner struck him on the wrist with a piece of iron and shut the door. A constable came up shortly afterwards, and witness went into the house with him, but could not find Burke. He gave a description of the prisoner to the police, and Detective Stanley, 42 G, arrested Burke in Whitecross-street. Mr. Horace Smith sentenced Burke to five months' imprisonment with hard labour (two months for the assault, and three months for the robbery).

Thames.

A VERY MIXED TALE.—Walter King and Anna Cradley were charged with a robbery from the person.—John Barber, a dock labourer, of Nottingham-street, Bethnal Green, said he got into a cab on Friday night, but could not recollect what happened to him. As he turned out of York-road, Ratcliff, he saw the male prisoner. He lost some money from his inside coat pocket. The latter produced as his property, and he had it in his trousers pocket. Benjamin Martin, 408 J, said that at twelve o'clock on Friday night he was in York-road, when he saw prosecutor with the prisoners and a woman not in custody. The prosecutor was holding himself up by a post, and he saw the prisoner riding his pockets, and he took something from the left jacket pocket, which he held up. The prisoner and the woman walked with the prosecutor to a beer-shop window, and he saw something in the male prisoner's hand, and the female not in custody snatched at it, but it fell on the ground. The male prisoner stooped and picked it up. The prosecutor left the post and followed the male prisoner. The male prisoner went towards the prosecutor, and just as he was about to pick him up witness touched him on the shoulder and told him he should take him into custody for robbing a drunken man.—Mr. Saunders discharged the prisoners.

Westminster.

THE TROUBLES OF A CONVICT.—Edward Keefe, a naval man, arrested at Chelsea, was charged before Mr. Snel with not reporting himself to the police, he being a person sentenced to their supervision.—In 1881 prisoner was sentenced to three years' penal servitude, and three years' police supervision for larceny from the person, and since his discharge he reported himself with regularity until quite recently, when he failed to notify his change of address at the local police station, although specially warned that he must do so.—Defendant said he had been getting his living respectably and by hard work for over two years, and he considered it very hard that he should be locked up because he went to Eastbourne in search of employment.—Mr. Snel remanded him in custody for a week, for the attendance of officers who could speak to his conviction and discharge from prison.

TWO WOMEN.—Louisa Kelly, a tall, poorly-dressed woman, described as an unfortunate, was charged before Mr. Snel with causing injury to Ellen James, a woman of the same class of life, at Calcutta-place, Chelsea.—The prosecutrix, whose head was enveloped in a surgical bandage, and who seemed very weak, deposed that on the previous night, between ten and eleven, the prisoner took her by the throat, and threw her violently on the pavement. The back of her head came in contact with the stone, and she was much hurt. She had not quarrelled with the prisoner, and did not now desire to press the charge.—Constable Bonitas, 418 J, said the prisoner came up to him and gave herself in charge, or what she had done. The prosecutrix was very pale, and was bleeding profusely, and barely audible. All the prisoner said was that she did not know why she had done it, and she could not in any way account for the feeling that came over her.—Mr. Snel remanded her for a week in custody to see how the injured woman progressed.

West London.

DIDN'T CARE FOR STEADY WORK.—Thomas Johnson, a "canneryman," was charged with being drunk and disorderly, in the garden, South Kensington.—Police-constable 377 Division deposed that he saw prisoner on Friday night, and saw him following a four-wheeled cab with luggage. When the cab stopped the gentleman told him he did not require his services. Witness requested him to go away. The prisoner, who was drunk, used abusive language, and said that he would show him a "round or two" on the pavement. Witness took him to the station, and on the way he tried to throw him.—The prisoner expressed regret for what he had done.—Mr. Plowden said that kind of language must be put a stop to. It was in the habit of running after cabs and annoying persons who did not require their services.—The prisoner: I must do something for an honest living.—The constable said he had known the prisoner for some time as a "canneryman" in South Kensington.—The assessor under stated that the prisoner was a good workman if he liked to follow his trade.—Mr. Plowden fined the prisoner 10s. or seven days.

AN OWNER FOUND.—Walter Andrew Boeckman, a shoemaker, was re-examined on the charge of having a lady's mantle in his possession and not giving a satisfactory account of the same.—Police-constable 600 Reserve ordered her out, but she was obliged to remove her by force.—Now she denied being drunk, and said that she should have "turned round and come off quietly." If the policeman had not pushed her as she was crossing the road.—The constable denied having given her a "kick."—Mr. De Rutzen asked her what she had to say about being drunk in that condition, because she did not leave home till half-past twelve o'clock.—Mr. De Rutzen: Do you wish me to understand that you were sober?—The prisoner: Yes, I was sober, perfectly sober.—Mr. De Rutzen: Then I will have the inspector sent for who took the charge at the station.—Miss Davis was returned to the bar, but she had only been there a few minutes when she received a knock and was taken to the dock. Then she pleaded guilty to being drunk, and Mr. De Rutzen, addressing her, said that her case was an illustration of how necessary it was that all the evidence should be stated before a person was sent away. Her denial was given simply to prejudice the police. She said that when she ought not to have said at last she had to admit the fact. He would not, however, punish her severely, but let her off with a fine of 3s.

Lambeth.

THE SCHOOLBOYS' STRIKE.—Elijah Goodley, 14, a smart-looking boy, was charged with the workhouse clothing, was charged with acting in a disorderly manner and throwing stones in Regent-street, Kensington.—The prisoner was one of a gang of boys who joined in the "School Boys' Strike," their demands being "no cane or stick; no home lessons; less hours at school; and three free dinners per week." That was the "manifesto" issued, and amongst others the present prisoner was one of the leaders of the movement in a certain district. He had marched at the head of some 100 boys who had "struck" to a school in the neighbourhood of Regent-street, and there made a "demonstration," and when the master came out the prisoner was seen by Police-constable 274 L to throw stones at the master. The prisoner, at the same time, with others, shouted out to the boys to "strike." The boy was remanded for a week, and on his reappearance on Saturday he said as if he was afraid of further confinement.—The master of the school said he had to take some children home,

who were afraid to leave the playground in consequence of the mob of boys outside. He could not identify the prisoner as throwing stones.—Mr. Partridge said he hoped this would be the last of such foolish and disgraceful conduct on the part of boys. He told the prisoner he was liable to a fine of 40s. for throwing stones even if he allowed him now to be discharged on his mother entering into bail for his good conduct in future.

Southwark.

CHARGE OF EMBEZZLEMENT.—Edwin Rowe, 37, carman, was charged with embezzling 41 1s. received by him for and on account of his master, Mr. John Dainton.—The prosecutor stated that he carried on the business of a dyer and cleaner at Southwark Park-road, and the prisoner had been in his employ for about two years. His duties were to deliver goods that had been cleaned and receive money, which he was to pay over to the cashier as soon as he had collected it. In consequence of receiving a letter from a customer he spoke to the prisoner, and he admitted that he had received various sums of money which he had failed to pay in.—Detective-sergeant Bradford said he arrested the prisoner, and when he told him the charge, accused said "Yes, I am the right; I lost a 45s. note, and I have been trying to make it up, but things have all gone against me."—On the application of the police, Mr. Fenwick remanded the prisoner for a week.

Dalston.

STEALING A CHEQUE.—George Allister, aged 16, an errand boy, was charged with stealing from a post letter box at Ash Grove a cheque for £23 14s., the property of Mr. Frederick West, saw mill proprietor, of Victoria Park-road.—The evidence produced by Detective-sergeant Murphy showed that on September 1st Mr. James Claxton, box-maker, of Goswell-road, City, sent the cheque in question by post to Mr. West, and the next day was heard of the cheque was that it had been placed to Mr. West's credit at the Hackney branch of the London and County Bank.—Mr. Jones, bank cashier, identified the prisoner as having presented the cheque, but this was placed to Mr. West's credit instead of the money being given.—Mr. Simpson, manager of the Crispigate Bank, Whitecross-street, said he remembered a lad presenting the cheque produced, but as it was a crossed cheque witness told him it would have to be passed through a bank.—Prisoner, who had been in the employ of Mr. West, denied taking the letter from the box, but said he found the letter containing the cheque in his master's stable.—Mr. Haden Corser committed the prisoner for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Wandsworth.

RECEIPTS IN SOUTH LONDON.—George Tackett, a general dealer, Elizabeth Tackett, Job Gill, and Christian Gill, all of 80, Orrell-street, Battersea, and James Tackett, a general dealer, were finally examined on the charge of being concerned in burglariously entering 515, Battersea Park-road, and stealing therefrom watches and jewellery to the value of £200, the property of Leopold Wasson, jeweller, Michael Lydon and Frederick White were placed in the dock at the same time, charged with burglariously entering 11, Edinborough Grove, Wandsworth Common, the residence of Mr. J. B. Clark, M.P., and stealing jewellery, his property. Mr. Sims prosecuted on behalf of the Treasury and prisoners were defended by Mr. Diamond, Mr. Clegg, barrister, and Mr. John Haynes. The prisoners were arrested at different times, and it was in consequence of portions of the stolen property being found at the house of George Tackett, that they were placed in the dock together, it being alleged that they were all known to each other and worked together. Mr. Wasson's premises were broken into on the early morning of the 26th September last, and Mr. Clark's house was entered some days afterwards from a back door, and the thieves being seen to enter over the back wall. Detective-sergeant Winter obtained a search warrant, and, with other officers, made a careful examination of 80, Orrell-street, where several of the prisoners resided, and discovered a large amount of jewellery, consisting of gold and silver watches, diamond and pearl rings, gold bracelets, necklaces, lockets, and watch chains, in addition to a quantity of plate, estimated to be of the value of about £200, and the proceeds of many burglaries. The officers also found two pieces of melted gold and more ivory in a brown paper parcel under the ground in the back garden. Three other charges were now gone into.—In the first case, Miss Emily Eliza Chandler, of 11, Weymouth-street, Battersea, was called, and on the 2nd of January last she accompanied her mother for a walk. On returning she found the house in confusion, the wardrobe having been forced open and the clothes strewn about the room. She missed a gold chain, five gold rings, and a brooch. The thieves to all appearances entered by the front door, and apparently with a false key. She mentioned a ring produced as her property.—Mr. Ernest Middleton Morris, a jeweller, residing at 2, Curlew Gardens, Putney, said that on the morning of September 26th he was out of town and his house was in charge of a woman who did not live on the premises, but visited them now and again.—Sergeant Winter moved forward the ring and the watch in question by the last witness in a box belonging to George Tackett.—The evidence having been read over, Mr. Alfred formally remanded the prisoners for committal.—Mr. Drummond applied for bail for James Tackett, but Mr. Sims signed that he had already suffered five years' penal servitude.—Bail was accordingly refused.

Stratford.

ALLEGED FRAUD.—Charles Collins, alias Smith, of an emigrant, of St. Mark-street, Peckham, was charged with obtaining £25 10s. from David Lawrence, the landlord of the Rising Sun, Rotherhithe, by 21st inst. from John Vale, the landlord of the Cock Inn, at East Ham; and 25s. from Edward Lawrence, owner of No. 1, The Terrace, Hainault, Mr. Collins, a professional man, was charged with obtaining £25 10s. from David Lawrence, the landlord of the Rising Sun, Rotherhithe, by 21st inst. from John Vale, the landlord of the Cock Inn, at East Ham; and 25s. from Edward Lawrence, owner of No. 1, The Terrace, Hainault, Mr. Collins, a professional man, was charged with obtaining £25 10s. from David Lawrence, the landlord of the Rising Sun, Rotherhithe, by 21st inst. from John Vale, the landlord of the Cock Inn, at East Ham; and 25s. from Edward Lawrence, owner of No. 1, The Terrace, Hainault, Mr. Collins, a professional man, was charged with obtaining £25 10s. from David Lawrence, the landlord of the Rising Sun, Rotherhithe, by 21st inst. from John Vale, the landlord of the Cock Inn, at East Ham; 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"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There were a little under 40,000,000 letters posted on New South Wales last year.

The steamer Brooklyn, from Darien for New York, is thought to have been lost with her crew, numbering eighteen.

The Swiss Government has ordered 75,000 rifles of a new pattern from a manufacturer in the Canton of Solothurn.

The Solicitor-general has now ranked himself among those who advocate the abolition of the purchase of advowsons.

A month ago an old gentleman living at Deeping St. James, a village near Spalding, buried his fifth wife. He now lies interred in the same grave.

A publican, named Patrick Kelly, has been found murdered at Sligo. The man's head had been dreadfully battered in, apparently with a hatchet.

The London County Council have determined to apply to Parliament for powers to purchase and remove the block of buildings between Holywell-street and the Strand.

The journeymen bakers of Rochester and Chatham are being canvassed with a view to a combination to demand an increase of wages and a decrease of the hours of work.

At Bromley, Kent, Stephen Conway, a tailor was summoned for assaulting Mary A. Farmer, a married woman, by kissing her. He was fined 40s., including costs.

The working expenditure of our railway companies rose from thirty-five millions and three-quarters in 1887 to nearly thirty-six millions and a half in 1888.

The Greeks in London have sent the Princess Sophie a splendid dinner service for fifty persons. The workmanship of the massive gold plate is exquisite.

They are reducing the salaried establishment at Sheerness Dockyard. The first assistant to the chief engineer is among the abandoned posts; that one step effects a saving of 4385 a year.

A boy named Porter has died at Loughborough under unusual circumstances. A fortnight ago a piano stone got into his windpipe, and tracheotomy was performed. Death has now resulted from an abscess which formed in the larynx.

In consequence of the heavy rainfall of the last few days, large tracts of low-lying land in Kent are flooded. In the neighbourhood of Canterbury the Stour has overflowed its banks, and many acres of grazing land are under water.

The railway servants at Newcastle have reported the result of their interview with the directors of the North-Eastern Railway Company, which was favourable. The concession of better wages and hours is now regarded as inevitable.

Sofia has had a cab strike, but the men were brought to submission by the Government ordering the city firemen to drive in their stead. The cabmen in some cases have been imprisoned for breach of contract.

It is said that the doctors partly attribute the malady from which the King of Portugal suffered to his excessive smoking. It was no uncommon thing for him to smoke a hundred large green Havana cigars in four days.

At the village of Kincedown, near Dover, a coastguard named Splazett, has been found dead in a shelter on his beat, with his head terribly shattered. A revolver was lying by his side, and it is supposed that he committed suicide by discharging the weapon in his mouth.

The forty-second anniversary of the Vegetarian Society, whose headquarters are in Manchester, was celebrated this week in Liverpool. A number of well-attended meetings were held, at which reports of the progress of the vegetarian movement were given.

The exuberance of debate suffered no decline last session. There were 8,545 speeches delivered, and of these only 1,625 were uttered by Ministers and 965 by ex-Ministers. To the balance, Mr. Sexton made an effective contribution of 145, and Mr. Healy 129.

In their ambitious attempt to out-Eiffel Eiffel, the directors of the projected London Tower Company have decided to offer two prizes of 500 and 250 guineas for the best designs. The tower is to be 1,250 ft. high—one-fourth more lofty than the huge structure in Paris.

Our grave and inquisitive seigniors—the members of Parliament—asked 5,745 questions last session. Mr. Balfour had to reply to 1,239; and the Irish Solicitor-general to 418. Happy Sir Edward Clarke, the English Solicitor-general, and just one query addressed to him.

At the first ordinary meeting of the Metropolitan Common Lodging-house Association, the Bishop of Marlborough presiding, it was stated that the intention is to open houses in every part of London under the direction of local committees. The company will be conducted on purely business lines, and it is hoped that a fair return will be made to the investors.

Charles Robert Burton was charged at Dalston with stealing a horse, trap, and set of harness, valued at £20. According to the evidence the prisoner hired the horse and trap of a livery stable-keeper near Finsbury Park, and was found next day at Barnet, where, it was said, he had tried to dispose of the property. A remand was granted.

At the Mansion House, two clerks, named Sayers and Barnes, have been remanded on a charge of stealing and receiving certain documents of title to land, the property of a gentleman named Hill. Some evidence was given against the prisoners, and Mr. Henderson, a solicitor, recognised as Mr. Hill's property some deeds which had been found in a parcel in possession of one of the prisoners.

William Chance, a labourer, was committed for trial from the Wandsworth Police Court this week on the charge of causing the death of an elderly man named Holmes. The prisoner, against whom a coroner's jury has returned a verdict of manslaughter, as already reported in the People, is stated to have challenged Holmes to fight and knocked him down twice, and he was taken home dead.

In Russia another and hitherto unsuspected conspiracy has been brought to light. Numbers of students and of the more intelligent classes of the southern provinces are, it appears, allied to a political association in Austria, Poland, with the object of profiting by the defeat of Russia in a coming war to secure legislative independence under the supremacy of Austria. Many arrests have been effected.

The work of attending to trees in the Paris avenues, boulevards, and parks is in charge of 216 men, who are headed by a sub-engineer and two forest inspectors, and whose work costs 875,000 fr. annually. Their work, however, does not include the Bois de Boulogne, which alone entails an annual expense of 555,000 fr., half of which goes in salary to the guards, gardeners, and workmen; nor does it comprise the Bois de Vincennes, which costs every year 370,000 fr.

At Worship-street Police Court, Samuel Fiddymont, landlord of the Prince Albert, Broadfield-street, was charged with diluting his beer. An analyst called for the defence questioned the accuracy of the analysis of the Somerset House authorities, and questioned the methods by which the results had been ascertained; but Mr. Bushby held that the consensus of scientific opinion confirmed the practice pursued by the prosecution, and fined defendant 42s. and costs.

Of twenty-six inmates of a Cincinnati hospital who sat down to dinner one day last week, fifteen were over sixty years of age, eight over seventy, one eighty-three, another eighty-seven, and at the head of the table sat a woman just 24 years old. The last mentioned was Mrs. Elizabeth Schulten, who had been an inmate of the hospital for two years. She was born in Nesque, Westphalia, and remembers well seeing Napoleon just after his victory at Jena in 1806, and later on his disastrous retreat from Moscow. The old lady for a number

of years has been a strict vegetarian and a great lover of coffee.

The new Calais Harbour station has been opened for traffic.

The trial of Laurie, the alleged Arran murderer, is fixed to take place at Edinburgh on the 8th of November.

Sixteen persons, of whom four have since died, were injured in a disastrous explosion in a coal mine in the Choctaw Territory.

The Royal barge of Lillithgow received its charter from King Robert II. on October 23rd, 1855. It means to celebrate its quincentenary.

The death is announced of Viscount Torrington from typhoid fever. The deceased peer was born in 1841. He will be succeeded in the peerage by his son, who is at present only 3 years old.

With imposing ceremonial the new church built by the Duke of Newcastle, on his Notts estate at Clumber, at a cost of £40,000, was opened on Tuesday by the Bishops of Southwell and Lincoln.

Garlands were hoisted at the mastsheads and yards of the Victory, in Portsmouth Harbour, on Monday, in commemoration of the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar.

Lady Willoughby de Broke met with an accident whilst out on hunting. She was thrown, and was for a time unconscious. Her ladyship was removed home, and is progressing favourably.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has given a written promise that all children born after the 1st of January next are free, but are to remain the Sultan's subjects if the parents are such.

It is stated that a bill will shortly be laid before the German Federal Council for the establishment of a subventioned line of steamers to East Africa, at an outlay of about 900,000 marks.

A long discussion took place this week at the meeting of the Commissioners of Sewers upon the exorbitant charges of the water companies, and it was determined to invite tenders to complete the artesian well at the eastern end of the City.

At the opening of the German Reichstag this week, the speech from the throne dwelt on the measures taken for the security of peace, and announced that further legislation would be proposed for a better distribution of the Army in the interests of training and organisation.

At Westminster Police Court, Arthur Harris, a carman, was charged with being drunk while in charge of a piaofoite van in Fulham-road, and damaging a cab to the extent of 42s. Mr. Shell said he must protect the public, and sent him to goal for a month.

Another body—making the thirty-eighth—was recovered from the Mossfield pit on Monday. Several others were known to be lying in the Cockerfield level, but, although work is being constantly kept up in that part of the mine, these will not be reached for some days.

At Bury, Sir Henry James, M.P., opened a bazaar in aid of the funds of the Bury Recreation Grounds Committee. He spoke of the importance of providing, in thickly-populated districts, open spaces in which the people could spend a portion of their leisure hours.

Joshua Warren Lawler, 31, an American, described as the skipper of the yacht Neverank, was at Portsmouth committed for trial on charges of inflicting grievous bodily harm on John Meades, seaman, by shooting him with a revolver, and with attempting to inflict bodily harm on John Butcher by the same means.

Mr. E. M. Needham, superintendent of the Midland Railway system, has issued a circular to all inspectors and station-masters, calling attention to the delay of trains and the serious interruptions to traffic which results from it, urging them to take such steps as will restore the working to its former punctuality.

At this week's meeting of the City Commissioners of Sewers, the report of the Street Committee, recommending the acceptance of tenders from three electric lighting companies to light the eastern, central, and western parts of the City, was referred back to the committee for reconsideration.

A new cemetery having been provided by them at a cost of £10,000, the Grimsby Urban Sanitary Authority applied to the Bishop of Lincoln to dedicate it, consecration having been decided against. The bishop having declined, the town council have decided to ask the vicar to perform the ceremony, and, failing him, the ministers of other denominations.

The Duke of Argyll, in a letter having reference to the Marquis of Bute's article on Scotch Home Rule, says he thinks it will be time enough to examine more carefully these paper constitutions when the people of the country have decided to put themselves in the hands of those who now think themselves competent to devise a brand new scheme of government.

The court-martial which at Plymouth for some days inquired into a fight between Major Woods and Lieutenant Urnston, has concluded its sittings, the case of the latter being finished. The evidence with regard to Major Woods was taken last week. The decision came to by the court will not be officially made known until confirmed by the Admiralty.

The Brighton and Hove International Exhibition has been opened at Hove. The building, covering about three acres, has been erected on a site between Holland-road and Palmera Avenue, at a cost of over £4,000. The exhibits included various manufactures, jewellery, antique articles, paintings, &c. It will remain open for three months.

At the meeting of the Liberal Unionist Council in Great George-street, Westminster, this week, it was resolved that a copy of the report sent to the various branch Liberal Unionist associations throughout the country, with a strong recommendation from the council that a club in some form or other should, if deemed advisable, be established where this has not yet been done.

Sergeant Graham and Constable Coen, of the Irish Constabulary, stationed at Fermoy, rescued a cripple, named Michael Crowley, who fell into the River Blackwater and was in danger of being drowned. The sergeant, who jumped into the river from a bridge 25 ft. high, only kept the man afloat, and Coen thereupon jumped from the bridge and helped him in rescuing Crowley.

In London last week 2,513 births and 1,410 deaths were registered, the annual rate of mortality being 169 per 1,000. In twenty-eight large towns of the United Kingdom the rate averaged 18.7 per 1,000. During the first three weeks of the quarter the death rate in London averaged 16.5 per 1,000, or 2.2 below the average of the preceding ten years.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, last week, the mean temperature of the air was 49 deg. 4 min., 1 deg. 3 min. below the average in the corresponding weeks of the twenty years ending 1888. Rain fell on two days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 0.70 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was 173 hours, against 257 hours at Glyde Place, Lowest.

The first war game of the winter season was played on Tuesday at the Horse Guards, in the presence of large numbers of officers of the household troops. The plan set for the occasion was connected with the defence of London, a subject largely engaging the attention of military officers, and especially in the Home District, and it was stated that at the subsequent meetings the same subject will be pursued in many places.

Arising out of the labour agitation in the metropolitan area, several demonstrations were held on Sunday, one on each of the main roads. At Deptford Broadway, a body of men, usually employed in the foreign cattle market met and protested against the Privy Council's restriction as to the loading of cattle from Schleswig-Holstein. At the same place, a number of house painters and decorators met and adopted a protest against the employment of Belgian workmen at a London theatre. A number of workmen met also assembled in Victoria Park,

and passed a vote of sympathy with the sufferers from the Silvertown strike and lock-out.

Three centenarian vagrants recently appeared before the Melbourne city bench in one week.

The British born population of India is given at 89,798.

Last year no less than 2,583 persons died from cholera in Calcutta.

India contained in March, 1888, 209,477,728 souls. Of these 60,884,378 belonged to the native states.

Felix Kampf killed his son and daughter near Charleston, West Virginia, a few nights ago. He was drunk, and the children refused him shelter.

The London Tramways Company carried 1,160,220 passengers last week, and received £5,581 1s. 4d.

A Chicago husband and wife both filed petitions for divorce on the same day, each without the knowledge of the other.

The Bishop of London intends to urge upon the younger clergy the necessity of good reading and of adapting their voices to the church or room in which they are ministering.

Little John Craig was swinging on a stair at Shawlands, Pollokshaw, when he overbalanced himself and fell to the ground. The poor boy never regained consciousness.

The Queen's favorite yacht Alberta has just been surveyed, and the whole of the forepart has been found to have fallen a prey to dry rot. It will cost £20,000 to put her into proper repair.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., presiding at the annual meeting of the United Kingdom Alliance, held at Manchester, spoke in encouraging terms of the prospects of the movement.

A boat belonging to the Winifred, of Jersey, has been picked up off the Cornish coast. The Winifred has been long missing, and is believed to be undoubtedly lost with all hands.

The vacant Scottish judgeship has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Glog, sheriff of Perthshire. The appointment is worth £2,500 a year.

The ceremony of cutting the first sod of the West Highland Railway, an important section of the line near Fort William, was performed on Wednesday by the chairman of the company, General Lord Abinger.

Of the total receipts from passenger traffic last year, such as 27.4 per cent. was derived from third-class travellers, while only 14.7 per cent. was derived from first-class passengers, and 12.9 per cent. from second-class passengers.

Since 1854 the length of the railways of the United Kingdom has increased, in round numbers, from 8,000 to 20,000 miles, and the capital invested in railway shares has, in the same period, risen from £288,000,000 to £865,000,000.

Some experiments have been carried out at Aldershot with a view to test the capacity of a portion of the troops in General Sir Evelyn Wood's command to cope with the contingencies of modern warfare with savage tribes.

In his charge at a diocesan visitation, the Archbishop of Canterbury referred to the relations between the rich and the suffering poor, and suggested that the Church could supply the men and the spirit necessary to deal with the problem.

The National Thrift Society held the fifth of a series of open-air meetings on Wednesday at Loughborough Junction, when the speakers were Mr. Bowden Green, Mr. William Mist, and Mr. Robert Payne.

The female hands in the employ of Messrs. Arthur and Co., wholesale clothiers, Leeds, numbering nearly a thousand, came out on strike the other day on the ground of excessive deductions from their wages for materials used and power supplied for their work.

Kaiser Wilhelm has just bestowed the Order of the Crown upon a Schwerin miller. While the Emperor was visiting his visit to the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg—driving into Schwerin his horse bolted. The miller courageously jumped at their head, and prevented a serious accident.

The Waifs and Strays Society, in its quarterly statement, just issued, states that there are at present 1,390 children under the care of the society, 683 being in the homes and 428 boarded out, while there are 279 in other church homes for whose maintenance the society is responsible.

At the Jersey Royal Court on Wednesday, five persons were charged with smuggling spirits into the island, the contraband goods being hidden in sacks of oats. The captain of the vessel which carried the spirits was fined £101, two other defendants were fined £10 each, and two women 40s. each.

In New South Wales the Postmaster-general has had to engage the services of a gentleman who has made a special study of the Chinese characters of penmanship; and, thanks to his skill, coupled with a happy faculty of guessing, 1,350 Chinese letters with hieroglyphical addresses were finally placed in the right hands.

When Mrs. M'Dermid, the wife of a labourer living at Albert-street, Govan, went out, she left three young children in the house. Shortly after a neighbour, noticing smoke issuing from the door, entered the house. Poor little Susan, a child of three, was enveloped in flames. In a few hours she was dead.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach, speaking at a Conservative working men's association at Bristol, ridiculed the importance attached to recent by-elections, and declared that disestablishment of the Church, promised by the Separatists, could not be thought about till Home Rule had been determined, whenever that might be.

Not only is an international beauty show which is being run on admirably democratic principles. Every visitor on leaving the show is asked to put into a ballot-box the number won by the competitor whose charms seem to best deserve his or her suffrage. The champion beauty is, therefore, to be proclaimed by unrestricted suffrage.

The steamer Antigon, from Nassau, has arrived at New York, having on board seven of the crew of the English steamer Barnum, which was wrecked on the north of Turks Islands during the September gale. The men say that they were only two days in an open boat without food, and had to quench their thirst by catching rain water as best they could.

The Bishop of Derry, in addressing the clergy of his diocese, made an explanation of his preaching at St. Mary's, Cardiff, on the occasion of the Church Congress. He said the whole complicated and elaborate function of that service was one to which, in a ministry of forty years, he had neither seen nor even conceived a parallel. He repeated his attachment to the principles of the Reformation.

The latest big fortune story comes from Grand Forks, North Dakota. Here it is—Alexander Parkinson, a poverty-stricken farm labourer living there, has fallen heir to an estate worth £1,000,000, besides an annual income of \$9,000 by the death of a brother in Kent. A few days ago he received notice of his brother's death from the family solicitors, and \$1,000 to defray his expenses to England.

The County Council was occupied for some time on Tuesday in discussing contracts recommended by their committees. In one case the matter was referred back to the committee, on the motion of Mr. John Burns, on the ground that the firm recommended was paying wages below trade union rates. In a second case, the objection was that the Liverpool firm had been preferred by the committee, although two London firms had tendered for the same work at lower prices.

There is, or was, an old Irishman at Lisbon, who was a Royal coachman when the late King of Portugal was a child. One day the little prince was carried by the coachman up to some mischievous in the Royal stables. Without any regard for the princely dignity, Pat laid the heir of the House of Braganza across his knee, and spanked him soundly, despite his howls for mercy. The future king bore him no malice, however, and Pat was subsequently mentioned and lived on terms of

friendly familiarity with Dom Luis and his family after his whilom victim ascended the throne.

The Maritime Conference at New York has unanimously resolved that no change should be made in the mast-head and coloured lights now used.

There is a junior mastership vacant at the City of London School, and the committee have received no fewer than 314 applications, upwards of 100 of which are from gentlemen who possess a University degree.

The dock labourers of Bristol have struck for a uniform rate of wages of 5s. per day, with an hour for dinner, all the year round, the hours of labour to be from seven to five in winter and from six to five in summer.

A motion for the removal of the prohibition against the importation of pigs across the Danish frontier, and for the repeal of the import duties on swine and fresh pork, is to be introduced in the Danish Parliament.

In reply to an application to receive a deputation of London workmen on the subject of foreign cheap labour, the Premier regrets that he is unable to receive a deputation at present, but says that the question is being carefully considered by her Majesty's Government.

Tantia Bheel has been convicted of a murder committed at Bhopal in 1879, and has been sentenced to death. The murdered man was killed by Tantia and two others for having given evidence against Tantia. Further charges were abandoned.

The appointment of a successor to the late Sir Daniel Gooch (Provincial Grand Master of Freemasons for Berks and Bucks) will be deferred to allow time for the considering of the suggestion that the two counties should become separate provinces.

Julia O'Connor, aged 14 years, died in a hospital in New York the other night from the effects of a beating received about two months ago from Maggie Miller, a girl of about the same age. They quarrelled about a youth who was paying attention to both!

A man named John M'Kenzie, who died at Ballarat the other day, was a mining man of one Duncan Gillies away back in the fifties. M'Kenzie did not rise to a higher post than that of night watchman to a foundry. Gillies became Premier of Victoria!

Two youths, named Thomas and Mayne, were carting away the refuse of some mining operations near Dolcoath mine, Cornwall, when they undermined the heap, and the refuse, which was being used for building purposes, fell on Thomas, who was crushed to death.

At the London School of Medicine for Women the very unusual event of two ladies—Miss Moffat and Miss Bennett—getting the highest possible marks has just occurred, and in consequence the scholarship of £30 has been divided between them.

Two fines of 20s. and costs have been imposed at the Liverpool Police Court on Maurice Mulloy, the licensee of a public-house in Jackson-street, Liverpool, for breaches of the licensing laws in supplying liquor to a girl 18 years of age, and permitting her to get drunk on the premises.

It has been found necessary to amputate the leg of Count Okuma, Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, whose life an assassin recently attempted to take. The operation was performed successfully, and the Minister is progressing favourably.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were on Wednesday presented with gifts by representatives of the Ward of Cheap. In acknowledging them, his lordship expressed a hope that the many objects to which he had devoted his attention during his mayoralty would tend to the advancement of the best interests of the people.

The notorious Hoxton burglar, Wright, who is an inmate of the Port-a-Convict Prison, has received three dozen lashes for his share in an attempted mutiny, of which he was discovered to be the ringleader. Wright has given the authorities a good deal of trouble, and had previously been flogged for violent behaviour.

At Rainham ranges the gold medal, gold badge, and championship of the 2nd City of London Rifle Volunteers has been won by Private A. Hore, of B Company, who, shooting under Queen's Prize first stage conditions, made eighty-six points, Corporal Hare being second with seventy-nine.

Henry Sharpe was charged at the West London Police Court with having obtained situations by means of a false character. The prisoner obtained employment as a barman by representing that he had been in the service of a Mr. Wilson, of Hounslow, and it was alleged that his representations were false. He was remanded.

The Government of India is taking steps to stop the slave traffic in the North-West Provinces. A native woman, who volunteered for the purpose, has been sent off with a police official to Scinde to point out and discover the victims and the dealers. The chief of the latter is said to be a Sikh.

Captain James addressed a meeting of the North Kensington Constitutional party in the Norland Ward on Wednesday at the Norland Conservative Club, 12, St. John's-place, Notting Hill, Mr. J. P. Porter in the chair. A vote of confidence in the Government was unanimously carried.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court, George Elisha Groves, a horsekeeper, and Mary Groves, his wife, have been committed for trial on the charge of having neglected to provide food for their three children, aged respectively seven, four, and two years. The two elder children were found asleep on a doorstep in the Caledonian-road, one of them being in an almost dying condition.

Lady Holland died worth in personal property £245,000. She in her will bequeathed to the Earl of Hereford absolutely all such of the furniture and contents of Holland House as were not the subject of the arrangements in his favour made in her ladyship's lifetime, under which his lordship became the owner of Holland House and the Kensington estate.

There was a singular scene at the sitting of the Serbian Skupshchina this week. The reading of a congratulatory telegram from King Milan was received with loud laughter. It was next proposed that, as the young King had not assisted at the opening of the Chamber, the deputies should adjourn to the palace, and that was accordingly done.

A Montenegrin official journal reports that an American youth, 12 years of age, applied to Prince Nikita for his photograph, and sent him his own portrait, with the following inscription:—"The bravest prince of the bravest land, from the little boy who loves him." The prince in return sent his photograph, with a note containing some graceful verses.

The Lord Mayor on Tuesday entertained the mayors and provosts of the United Kingdom at the Mansion House, where some 300 guests assembled. Mr. Ritchie responded to the toast of "Local Self-government," and referred to the necessity for providing wholesome dwellings for the working classes. He hoped it might be his lot to complete the great system of local self-government, and he had a scheme for this ready, which was one of devotion rather than centralisation.

Addressing a meeting at Southport on Wednesday, Mr. Gladstone said there might be great dangers threatening the tranquillity of Europe. The constant misgovernment of Turkey might be a continued menace of peace. He claimed that the only good measures passed last session were those which had the support of the Opposition; but, for the most part, the Government measures were only half measures, and inefficient. In respect to Ireland, it was the duty of every one to denounce a bad law; and the inequality between the laws governing Ireland and this country was shown in this—that the people in that country were forbidden to hold such a meeting as that he was addressing, whereas the Coercion Act might be denounced. The Government had furnished

no proof of their boasts that the state of things in Ireland showed an improvement.

The Marquis of Lorne was on Thursday presented with the freedom of Dundee, and was afterwards entertained at a lunch.

Viscount Falmouth is lying seriously ill at his Kentish residence, Mereworth, near Maidstone. Sir Andrew Clarke is in attendance.

The charge of assault against Mr. Macdonald Green by the manager of the Financial Times was, at the Old Bailey on Thursday, adjourned until next session.

The Canadian Deputy Minister of Agriculture officially contradicts the statement that a number of Canadian cattle afflicted with pleuro-pneumonia have been sent to England.

Forty more claims for compensation for injuries received in the Armagh Railway accident have been settled by one solicitor. The compensation given ranges from £50 to £200.

The officials of the Metropolitan Asylums Board report that during Wednesday thirty-six fever cases were admitted into the six hospitals now open in London, and that 1,374 patients remain under treatment.

On Thursday the Bristol dock labourers, satisfied with the terms granted, consented to discharge the cargoes on some of the vessels in harbour on condition that they should come out again on Friday morning if the corn porters were not successful in obtaining their demands, but this return to work was not general.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court on Thursday, Emily Hamming, 48, for some time steward at the Pramoose Club, Park-place, St. James's, pleaded guilty to stealing a macintosh overcoat, valued at £3 10s., the property of Mr. Arthur Denman, a law student, of Cambridge Gardens. The prisoner was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

At Derby on Thursday, Elizabeth Laycock, 39, was sent to the gaols for attempting to commit suicide. While a prisoner in the lock-up she twice tried to commit suicide by hanging, nearly succeeding the second time. She has served long terms of imprisonment on three occasions for similar offences, and left the court saying she would hang herself, however long she had to wait.

A lighterman, named Edward Stanton, while in his boat, discovered the body of a man floating in the Thames off Limehouse Hole. He secured it and called the police, who conveyed it to the parish mortuary. There were bruises on the leg, and the left ear was missing. The body had not been in the water more than four or five hours.

Frank Gross and Julius Duerr, brothers-in-law, living in Brooklyn, New York, quarrelled about family matters and came to blows. Frank Gross, jun., aged 16, a blind boy, who was home on a visit from a New York asylum, became excited in the quarrel, and, picking up a plate, hurled it in the direction of the noise. The plate struck Duerr, fracturing his skull, and eventually causing death.

Mr. Ashmead Bartlett, M.P., addressed a crowded Unionist meeting at Dorking on Wednesday evening. He said that if Mr. Gladstone were ever to obtain power it would bring about, not only civil war in Ireland, but also a general conflagration throughout Europe. Italy, Austria, and Germany had united to defend each other and to uphold the peace of Europe, but Mr. Gladstone would throw the whole weight of England, if he could, against the peace league and in favour of the perpetual disturbers of peace.

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